MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

26 FEBRUARY 1986

Egypt

Cairo radio announced the imposition of a curfew throughout greater Cairo starting at 1600 GMT 26 February and continuing until further notice. The decision followed an outbreak of rioting by conscript policemen who were responding to rumors about a decision to extend their years of service, according to the radio. A special forces unit confronted the rioters, who attacked cars, houses, and tourist sites in the pyramids area of Al-Jizah Governorate. In a related report, MENA stressed that the rumor which sparked off the disturbances was false. Although AFP reported that Cairo airport was closed to international traffic in the wake of the riots, an airport official cited by MENA subsequently stated that air traffic is proceeding normally. As for the situation near the pyramids, AFP said that two hotels were destroyed in the riots and that "dozens" of rioting conscripts were injured in violent clashes with security forces. The French agency spoke of "several thousand" rioters, noting that the protesting conscripts receive low wages and are generally employed in the thankless task of directing Cairo traffic.

Iran-Iraq War

Iranian forces killed or wounded over 500 Iraqi troops in a new attack on the Al Faw-Umm Qasr axis the night of 25 February, IRNA announced. INA, however, stated that Iraqi forces contained several Iranian counteroffensives and that Iraqi aircraft began intensive raids on Iranian positions early 26 February following an improvement in weather conditions. As for the new Iranian offensive in northeast Iraq, which has not yet been mentioned by monitored Iraqi media, IRNA reported that Iranian forces made further gains in another advance late on 25 February, bringing to 50 the tally of Iraqi villages "liberated" northeast of Al-Sulaymaniyah. Many of the captured villages mentioned in IRNA are in the mountainous area near the Gogasur River, some 20-30 km from Al-Sulaymaniyah, and the agency claimed in one report that Al-Sulaymaniyah is now within range of Iranian artillery.

In a separate development, Kuwait radio noted that the Kuwait amir inspected Kuwaiti military positions in Bubiyan Island 25 February.

Israel

The two IDF soldiers kidnapped in Lebanon 17 February have been taken to Beirut, *THE JERUSALEM POST* reported.

On the Golan Heights, police arrested 18 villagers in connection with a violent demonstration that occurred during Prime Minister Shim'on Peres' visit to the village of Majdal Shams, Jerusalem radio noted, adding that several local policemen and residents were injured in the scuffles.

PLO

Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf told Radio Monte Carlo that King Husayn has "canceled" the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement by his 19 February speech, adding that there will be "no agreement and no Jordanian-Palestinian relations while there are attempts to bypass the PLO."

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

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'Arafat Criticizes Arab Position on Iraq-Iran War

JN251810 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1645 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has said that the Arab position on Iraq reminds him of the Arab position on the 88-day siege which was imposed on the Palestinian revolution during the Israeli invasion of Beirut in the summer of 1982. In an interview with the London magazine *AL-DUSTUR* published the day before yesterday, he referred to the Arabs' failure to help Iraq, while the Arab League Charter and the Collective Arab Defense Pact Charter clearly stipulate that any aggression against any Arab country is considered an aggression against all the Arabs. Brother Abu 'Ammar also affirmed that Iraq not only defends its territory against the continued Iranian aggression, but also defends the entire Arab nation and uses its brave army to guard the Arab nation's eastern flank. He added that the Iraqi Army is not only defending Iraq, but is also defending Palestine and all the Arabs alone and courageously. He also pointed out that if Iraq had not been preoccupied by this war, Israel would never have been able to move freely against the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese nationalist movement in Lebanon or besiege us in Beirut and practice terrorism against the Palestinian people and the Islamic and Christian Holy Places in Jerusalem and in the holy land. He also said that the Iraqi Army's ability is not confined to the eastern front, but also represents a striking force of which the Arab nation is proud and which Israel takes into serious consideration.

Salah Khalaf Responds to King Husayn Speech

JN252010 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1750 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Interview with Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf, identified by his nom de guerre, Abu Iyad, by radio correspondent Nabil Darwish; date and place not specified — recorded]

[Text] [Nabil Darwish] Abu Iyad, since King Husayn's speech last week, Jordanian-Palestinian relations have become the most important event in the Middle East. One week before the king's speech, you held a long meeting with King Husayn and his prime minister, Zayd al-Rifa'i. During this meeting could you not settle and [word indistinct] these issues?

[Salah Khalaf] In fact, I am surprised by the manner in which the speech was written, by its timing, and by the fact that what we talked about in the talks was outside the scope of this speech. We talked about Jordanian-Palestinian relations. I told him verbatim: The Arabs may differ on many issues, but instead of conducting their differences in a civilized manner — meaning that we may differ but will remain friends — the Arabs allow their differences to be marred by acrobatics and [word indistinct] things.

His Majesty agreed with me on this point. However, the king surprised us with his speech. We are considering a reply to this speech, and a special body has been formed with elements from the PLO Executive Committee and the Fatah Central Committee to draft a reply to the speech. I do not want to say anything before the reply comes out, but I would like to make some observations on the king's speech last week. It was clear that in the speech the king tried to inform the brothers in the occupied territory that the withdrawal is at hand, that the only obstacle to this withdrawal is the PLO's recognition of Resolution 242. King Husayn as well as all informed people know that this is not true. Before the PLO became the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinians, King Husayn and others could not regain the territories in 7 years. At that time, the PLO did not present itself as the sole legitimate representative or raise the slogan of an independent Palestinian state. Why did they not regain the territories between 1967 and 1974? In fact, the political attempts noted by the King Husayn, even the Rogers plan and the 1973 Geneva conference, did not succeed. Why? Because the United States and Israel do not want a solution or peace. They want a Camp David-type solution or to impose autonomy over our people. Ignoring this fact and addressing oneself to the occupied territories by speaking about the suffering of the people there under the pretext that the withdrawal is at hand but the PLO hindered this withdrawal... [sentence incomplete] This is one point. Another point, in my opinion, which is also important, is that certain measures were taken following the speech. I hoped and I thought that King Husayn would be above such measures. Moving certain people that are worn out, certain figures that have no real presence. [sentence as heard] King Husayn had been cooperating with the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinians, but had differed with it. This difference should have led to what we agreed on in our talks: — a civilized method of dealing with each other. And because there is concern about Palestinian-Jordanian relations, there should not be moves to bypass the PLO. Others who tried to bypass the PLO did not succeed.

[Darwish] What people, Abu Iyad?

[Khalaf] These people which have moved such as Na'im al-Khatib [commander of the Palestine Liberation Army in Jordan] and others who dance to every tune.

[Darwish] But Abu Iyad, it seems that the situation now is different than the steps before 1974. It seems that you agreed upon a course of action which stipulates that a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation will meet a U.S. official. The PLO will then recognize UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338. An invitation will then be made to convene an international conference to be attended by the PLO within a joint delegation. It also seems that you went back on this stand at the last moment. This made King Husayn criticize your noncommitment to what you say and cast doubts upon your credibility.

[Khalaf] This may be the basic and central point in the whole speech. I attended all the Jordanian-Palestinian talks. I attended these talks in October, November, and January. Brother Zayd al-Rifa'i discussed this matter with Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat]. Al-Rifa'i talked with Abu 'Ammar about this matter in his house as mentioned in King Husayn's speech. I myself saw Abu 'Ammar arguing with the Jordanian prime minister that this story was foundless.

Once again Brother 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah [Jordanian court minister] discussed the same matter with Abu 'Ammar. I saw Abu

'Ammar's irritation when he heard this story. The Americans would not meet any Palestinian delegation (?unless) we accepted Resolution 242. Is the problem whether or not the Americans will meet with us? The regrettable problem is that instead of directing the campaign at the United States, Israel, and its intransigence, there is an attempt to twist the matter by making up untrue stories. If Abu 'Ammar agreed [to recognize Resolution 242], Abu 'Ammar would in no case say to King Husayn that I cannot accept 242.

I attended the talks. Our stand was that we want 242 and 338 to be accompanied by another UN resolution on our people's right to self-determination within a confederation with Jordan. What happened is that all the detours and evasions were to make us ac-cept 242 or to take representation from it.

[Darwish] With regard to self-determination, the Jordanians say that this a joint Jordanian-Palestinian issue. You have the right to present it in the international conference.

[Khalaf] This can happen when we take the land by force, when we establish an eastern front consisting of Syria, Jordan, and all Arabs, and when we regain the West Bank, more than the West Bank, and Gaza by arms. As the matter is related to peace talks, in these peace talks the future of any land from which Israel withdraws should be defined. The first thing the Israelis would say is that it is forbidden to establish a state, a semistate, or even an autonomy connected with Jordan if this autonomy is not also connected with Israel This is known. This is political withdrawal. What cards do you have to put pressure on Israel to impose the Palestinian people's self-determination on that land? This is an attempt to avoid this tragic situation.

Egypt is an example. Why are we criticizing the Egyptian- Israeli peace treaty? There are imposed conditions. These conditions prevent Egypt from increasing its forces from 10,000 to 11,000. We said all this to King Husayn. Withdrawal first and then self-determination is an attempt to avoid this situation. The withdrawal will not be by military force. If the withdrawal is achieved through military force, I agree that the matter will be an internal affair.

[Darwish] The subject now is the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement. King Husayn has stressed that the principles of this agreement will remain in effect. But let us talk frankly, Abu Iyad. You have never agreed to this agreement. You have always expressed some reservations about it. What is the fate of this agreement?

[Khalaf] I have expressed and will continue to express my reservations about this agreement. The few past days have proved that this agreement is only a paper aimed at extracting further concessions from us. I say this becauswe I also mentioned this point in front of King Husayn and his prime minister.

[Darwish] Therefore, do you support a Palestinian step toward the cancellation of the agreement?

[Khalaf] I say that King Husayn has cancelled the agreement by his speech. What is the value of this agreement which organizes Palestinian-Jordanian relations while they say that the PLO and its leadership lack credibility, consistency, and commitment? What is the value of this agreement when rallies and radio broadcasts inside Jordan and the press begin to attack the PLO and say that the land is more important than the PLO? The same tune we heard in 1983 has returned. We may find some people who beat drums and sing praises, but they will never be the Palestinian people's representatives.

[Darwish] But these dramatic developments have taken place while Palestinian ranks are not in good condition. You are trying to secure a unified Palestinian position, but several Palestinian groups criticized Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat following King Husayn's speech and called for the cancellation of the agreement.

[Khalaf] Our people know the position of some of our brothers who talk in Damascus. Our differences, as mentioned in King Husayn's speech, have been over our rejection of UN Resolution 242 in return for withdrawal, for an international conference, and for many other things he offered. Over the past 3 or 4 years, they [the Syrians] have told their people that 'Arafat is treasonous and sold the march, the cause, and everything. King Husayn's speech has come to prove that Abu 'Ammar does not want to relinquish, sell, or leave the cause. On the contrary, he is a man who adheres to principles and who has flexibility without concessions. He adheres to principles without exploiting slogans.

Of course, King Husayn's speech surprised them [the Syrians] and embarrassed them in front of our people everywhere. They will say: We told you to do so and so. I was not surprised. When I talk about national unity I mean the organizations which we respect and which have power inside the occupied land and I mean the good people and cadres in these organizations. We will seek out these organizations to achieve national unity. However, there are some people who will continue with their grudges and slogans until our people spit on them.

[Darwish] Have you any practical steps?

[Khalaf] I believe that the meeting which has taken place among the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP], Fatah, and the communists is important. We hope, despite the hardliners in the PFLP, that their representatives will also take part in such meetings. We extend our hand to all parties. Any group which believes that the PLO may be destroyed by the Jordanian Government and intelligence should come and join us. Experience has proven that the PLO leadership does not want to sell or betray the cause, as has been said over the past years.

[Darwish] Is there any hope for convening a conference to achieve unity?

[Khalaf] I am very optimistic.

[Darwish] Did you hear any encouraging talk during your meeting with the DFLP and the communists? Did you take a practical step in this direction?

[Khalaf] Undoubtedly, their only demand is the cancellation of the Amman agreement. In practice, King Husayn cancelled the agreement because there is no agreement without the PLO and the PLO leadership. There will be no agreement and no

Jordanian-Palestinian relations while there are attempts to bypass the PLO. This is a practical cancellation of the agreement. Everything can be negotiated. These sides expressed their reservation about the Amman agreement. Every issue can be discussed between us and them.

[Darwish] Do you believe that any other Palestinian body can resume the march?

[Khalaf] We have a great people in the occupied land. There is some talk about their sufferings, but our people do not [word indistinct]. Our people in the occupied land did not let down their cause and their organization at any time. Our people support us whenever the PLO faces an ordeal with any Arab regime or foreign force. The Palestinian people will remain loyal to the PLO leadership. Even the citizens inside the occupied land were surprised by the current move there.

[Darwish] The first reaction in the West Bank came from Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj. He supported the king's speech. Further support is also expected from some figures and officials in the West Bank.

[Khalaf] Iyals Frayj always reveals his real face in crises. This is regrettable. There are some figures who have interests. These do not represent even their villages.

[Darwish] These were elected by the Palestinian people.

[Khalaf] The Palestinian people elected them to support the PLO's program. This enabled the military governor in the West Bank to tempt some elected mayors. Of course, one or two of them may deviate. I defy any one of them who expressed hostile positions against the PLO to run in elections even for a street in their villages.

[Darwish] Let us move on to another topic. President Hafiz al-Asad talked to the French newspaper *LIBERATION* in a moderate tone to say the least. He also implicitly approved the Palestinian-Syrian contacts. What is the status of your relations, particularly following the Jordanian developments?

[Khalaf] From the first day of the estrangement with Syria, we have never spared any efforts to rectify this relationship and [word indistinct]. We do not seek side battles [word indistinct] with an Arab confrontation state. We are aware of the role of the Syrian Army, people, and leadership. However, we have always said that this relationship can be rectified by both sides, not only one. We have paid a great price for our independent decision-making. We insist that this price will not be paid in vain, will not go up in smoke. Any self-respecting leadership might coordinate with any Arab side, but within its independent position.

Contacts are being made, perhaps not at the level to which we aspire, but we cherish these contacts no matter how big or small. We support any glimmer of hope for clear, serious ties with Syria.

[Darwish] Is there a glimmer of hope?

[Khalaf] Yes, I believe there is. There must be.

[Darwish] My last question is on the Arab situation. Egypt has tried to mediate between you and Jordan. What is the Egyptian position? It also seems that you stress the need for Iraq to overcome its crisis.

[Khalaf] Egypt tried to play a role to prevent issues between us and Jordan from reaching the stage they have reached. However, and surprisingly, King Husayn chose an unsuitable time for his speech. He also chose improper contents for his speech. Egypt's mediation efforts did not succeed. An Egyptian envoy was sent to Amman while 'Arafat was in Cairo but this also did not succeed.

[Darwish] Have you not asked for arbitration?

[Khalaf] Issues have not reached that stage. We have a just demand on which we do not accept arbitration. We are responsible for our people's right of self-determination, for establishing an independent Palestinian state for our people -- I say independent because when I objected to the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement. I based my objection on the fact that the PNC resolution of Algiers stipulated that a unity could be established between two independent states. This unity can only be established after a Palestinian state has become independent. We are adhering to the confederation and to the Jordanian-Palestinian relationship. Therefore, Egypt tried to play a role but failed.

[Dawrish] What about the Iraqi position?

[Khalaf] I think we as Arabs have failed to come to its assistance. The Iraqi people and army are fighting to prevent the division of Iraq. They defend the Iraqi national soil, which is the soil of every Arab and Palestinian. We left the Iraqi people to fight the battle alone. Some give it money and some lend a little support, but I think the situation has exceeded all boundaries. This time, Iran entered a decisive battle. Is this Iranian and Iraqi blood, this destroyed economy, and the lost political stands in the interests of the two peoples? We oppose the occupation of any Iraqi territory. We do not stand against it with words but with all our resources. I think that what is currently happening in Iraq is an attempt to write an endless story in the Arab world.

[Darwish] Does this affect the Palestinian cause?

[Khalaf] We are against any country occupying the territory of other countries, against the occupation of any Arab territory. This is a matter of principle, regardless of the Palestinian cause. But how can the Iraqi Army, people, and policy deal with the Palestinian cause when they are fighting the current battle? We objected to King Husayn's speech because it came while this battle is continuing. At least he should have waited until the war was over and then begun other battles. Allies do not behave in this manner. He should not have begun war against the PLO while the Iraqi battle was continuing.

[Darwish] You say allies. Have you ever considered that you and Jordan are allies in the true sense?

[Khalaf] It is not a personal matter. If Jordan comes to an agreement and respects it and if we respect this agreement, why can't Jordan be an ally?

PNC Members, Palestinians in Egypt Support PLO

JN251914 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1645 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] PNC members and Palestinian bodies and popular unions in Egypt held a meeting at the PLO office in Cairo to study the current political situation pertaining to the Palestine question and King Husayn's recent speech announcing the end of political coordination with the PLO. The conferees agreed to support the PLO leadership's adherence to basic principles and our people's rights, foremost of which is the right to self-determination, and to stress the need for our people to exercise this right under their legitimate leadership.

They also affirmed that the PLO's representation of our struggling people is not subject to discussion, explaining that the Palestinian people have chosen their leadership freely in light of their long struggle and their confrontation of all attempts to impose subservience, control, and trusteeship on the Palestinian people. They also stressed the solidity of the Palestinian people's unity inside and outside the occupied land, as well as their rejection of any attempt to bypass the PLO as a sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. They also praised our masses' firm and enlightened position inside the occupied homeland in supporting the PLO and in adhering to basic principles, PNC resolutions, and the Palestinian-Jordanian agreement.

The conferees held the United States responsible for Israel's arrogance and contentiousness in the region, as well as for its intransigence toward the Palestinian people's legitimate rights and its attempt to foil any effort to bring about peace in the region. Finally, the PNC members and the Palestinian popular unions in Egypt, at the end of their meeting at the PLO office in Cairo yesterday, warned that any attempt to bypass the PLO and the Palestinian people's rights, foremost of which are repatriation, self-determination, and the establishment of their own independent state, is doomed to failure. Our people, through their support for the PLO and their continued struggle, will regain their full legitimate rights sooner or later.

PLO Member Did Not Freeze Fatah Membership

GF251829 Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 24 Feb 86 p 29

[Text] *AL-SIYASAH* has learned from leading Palestinian sources in the PLO that Fatah Central Committee member Khalid al-Hasan did not freeze membership of the Central Committee at any time in protest of the PLO's rejection of Resolution 242.

The sources affirmed that Khalid al-Hasan's stance toward the issue of recognizing Resolution 242 is known and has been announced — since the issuing of the resolution in 1967 — whether through his public statements or his political stances inside and outside the PLO framework. The sources said that Khalid al-Hasan rejects this resolution and always warns against its recognition by the PLO and the Palestinian people, because it does not deal with the issue of the Palestinian people, their legitimate rights, and their right to self-determination.

In their statements to *AL-SIYASAH*, the sources said that what was published about Mr Salah Khalaf's rejection to attend a meeting in Amman recently to discuss the PLO's final stance toward Resolution 242 before informing the Jordanian Government about this stance is baseless. Khalid al-Hasan was in Kuwait nearly 1 month ago and did not attend the Fatah Central Committee meetings or PLO Executive Committee meetings during this period.

UAE Paper: Egypt, Jordan Prepare for New Peace Move

GF251521 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 25 Feb 86 pp 1, 8

[Excerpts] Egypt and Jordan are currently preparing a new formula to begin the peace operation. A well-informed Egyptian source told *AL-ITTIHAD* that this formula is based on the recognition of the Security Council's resolutions and direct negotiations between the enemy and a Jordanian delegation to include Palestinians.

Meanwhile, the Egyptian president has received a message from King Husayn on a substitute for the Palestinian representatives. In another development, secret contacts among the different Palestinian factions have begun in Prague.

However, it has been rumored that the USSR is acting to regain the unity of the Palestinian ranks and that it has been able to convince the PFLP and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP] to attend the 27th CPSU Congress as part of the PLO delegation led by Faruq Qaddumi.

A responsible source in Cairo stated that the new formula currently under discussion for approval as soon as possible is based on three points:

One: Palestinian recognition of Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and recognition of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people;
Two: Direct negotiations between the Zionist enemy and a Jordanian delegation which will include Palestinian leaders; and
Three: Adopting a definite concept for the convocation of an international peace conference with the participation of all concerned parties, including Syria and standing members of the UN Security Council, with the guarantee that all decisions of the conference will be observed by all parties.

Meanwhile, a well-informed Palestinian source stated that Mahmud 'Abbas, alias Abu Mazin, member of the PLO Executive Committee, met with some DFLP representatives in Prague, and that Khalil al-Wazir, alias Abu Jihad, deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, arrived in Prague from Moscow 2 days ago to take part in these talks.

The source added: It is expected that the talks will resume in Moscow between the representatives of the Palestinian factions who will attend the 27th CPSU Congress, and that the DFLP will mediate between Fatah and the other factions opposing Yasir 'Arafat, especially the PFLP and the Palestinian Communist Party.

Joint Forces Attack Militias in S. Lebanon
JN251917 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1645 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] The men of the Palestinian-nationalist Lebanese joint forces attacked with Katuysha rockets a military camp belonging to the militias of the so-called Army of southern Lebanon in the township of Marj 'Uyun in southern Lebanon yesterday. The camp sustained heavy damage and a number of agent militiamen were either killed or wounded.

BAHRAIN

Heir Apparent Receives Iranian Official

GF251206 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1000 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] Manama, 25 Feb (WAKH) — His Highness Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, the Bahrain heir apparent and acting prime minister, received here today Sheykh ol-Eslam, the Iranian assistant foreign minister for Islamic affairs, who is currently paying a visit to Manama.

The audience was attended by Khalid ibn Ahmad Al Khalifah, chief of the heir apparent's office and 'Abbas Shokuhi, the charge d'affaires at the Iranian Embassy in Bahrain.

Foreign Minister Receives Algerian Counterpart

GF251445 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1240 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] Manama, 25 Feb (WAKH) — Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah met today with Algerian Foreign Minister Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, who is currently visiting Manama.

During the meeting, bilateral relations and the means to bolster them were discussed. Views were also exchanged on cooperation and coordination between Bahrain and Algeria regarding a number of issues that concern the Arab homeland and the Islamic world.

WAKH has learned that the Iraq-Iran war was one of the most significant issues discussed during the meeting, since Algeria has played a basic role in finding peaceful means to end the Iraq-Iran war.

They also discussed current developments in the Arab homeland, particularly those developments concerning the Middle East and Palestinian issues and the joint Arab action to confront the Israeli challenges.

The Algerian minister arrived in Manama yesterday on a 2-day visit within the framework of a tour of a number of the region's countries.

Dr Ibrahimi will leave Manama for Doha today.

Minister Leaves for Qatar

GF251657 Manama WAKH in English 1600 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] Manama, 25 Feb (WAKH) — Algerian Foreign Minister Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi and his accompanying delegation left here today for Doha, Qatar on the third leg of a regional tour. He was seen off by Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah and other officials.

In a statement to GULF NEWS AGENCY Dr Ibrahimi described his talks with Bahraini officials as positive and constructive.

"During my two-day visit to the island I delivered a message to H.H. the Amir of Bahrain Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah from Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid dealing with issues of mutual interest," he said.

Dr Ibrahimi said that his talks with the Bahraini foreign minister covered the latest developments in the Iraq-Iran war, the Arab situation and other international issues.

He expressed the hope that efforts to end the war will meet with success so that peace and security prevail in the region.

Asked what was the purpose of his current tour in the region, Dr Ibrahimi pointed out that it comes within the framework of constant Algerian efforts to find a peaceful solution to the Iraq-Iran conflict. Algeria will spare no efforts to stop the war, he added.

KUWAIT

Amir Inspects Northeast, Bubiyan Island Defenses

LD261001 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] On our glorious national day, his highness the amir, the commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces, spent the entire day along our northeastern border with his brothers, the men of the Armed Forces. His highness visited Bubiyan Island, where he inspected defense and support positions. He had lunch with his brother officers in these areas and discussed issues relating to the tasks entrusted to them.

His highness was accompanied on this tour by Defense Minister Shaykh Salim al-Sabah; Army Chief of Staff Major General 'Abdallah Farraj al-Ghanim; and senior officers of the Armed Forces.

AL-QABAS Views Discontinuation of Jordan-PLO Moves

GF211742 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 20 Feb 86 p 1

[Editorial entitled: "A Death Certificate for the U.S. Solution"]

[Text] The official termination of Jordan's partnership with the Palestinian leadership as announced by King Husayn was a logical end to an illogical move the disadvantages of which exceed its advantages concerning the cause of the Palestinian people.

This partnership had actually been discontinued despite artificial salvation attempts. All Arab-Arab and Arab-international contacts have proven that it will not lead to its true goal, which is arrival at an international conference under the banner of the White House.

The Jordanian and Palestinian sides used to admit this fact indirectly and waited for each other to take the initiative to declare the death of the Amman agreement.

Israel itself was confident that the agreement would fall dead halfway through. The price 'Arafat was asked to pay was exorbitant. It was the relinquishment of the last of his negotiation cards and the open recognition of Resolution 242.

This step, by the admission of Peres himself, would have made the PLO lose its character as a nationalist liberation movement.

Although the framework through which the death of the joint moves was announced due to "non-commitment and lack of credibility and consistency" carries within it "personal" accusations, it eventually ends in favor of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people.

If some people view the announcement that future Jordanian moves, which would be based on fundamentals which include the decision of the Jordanian parliament concerning the unity of the two banks [of the River Jordan], as pulling the rug from under the feet of the PLO as a representative of the Palestinians inside the occupied territories, the result would also be in favor of the Palestinian cause.

This has been the position of *AL-QABAS* from the start. Jordanian moves without a Palestinian cover would spare the PLO from being exposed to suspicion and would protect Palestinian national rights from being lost in the market of give and take, supply and demand.

If separate Jordanian moves achieve something, then the PLO can win that for itself in accordance with the resolutions of the Arab summit conferences, without polluting itself by the game of concessions and retractions at the negotiating table.

Even flirting with the Cairo axis is no longer possible following the famous ultimatum which expired in the middle of February, and of which the Jordanian decision represents a milder version.

Furthermore, the Palestinian leadership, even if it has bought some time in the war of the heavy pressures designed to push it into the corner of recognition, has a more limited sphere for maneuvering now.

This, however, is more conducive to its adopting a clear and open stand. 'Arafat himself can utilize the Jordanian decision to push forward new Palestinian parliamentary resolutions which will efface the negative effects of the Amman PNC resolutions, which caused Palestinian divisions accompanied by Syrian anger, particularly as President al-Asad himself announced that there are no personal disagreements between him and the PLO leaders.

Jordan's decision to dismantle joint moves is a defeat for the U.S. solution and not a defeat for the Arab-Palestinian solution. The new Palestinian stand, if it materializes, will enjoy a Soviet cover equal to the U.S. pressures.

At least, the achievement, in the poorest estimation, will be no less than emerging from the recognition trap and defending Palestinian rights from being lost at an unequal table of negotiations. The solution itself can wait for better circumstances.

PDRY

Academy Marks Convening of CPSU Congress

GF251957 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Excerpt] A rally was held this morning in the hall of the 'Abdallah Ba Dhib Martyr's Academy for Scientific Socialism, which was organized by the academy's administration and the YSP organization of Aden Governorate and the Yemeni Socialist Youths Union Central Committee, on the occasion of the convening of the 27th CPSU Congress, which began today.

The rally was attended by brothers Brigadier General Salih Munassar al-Siyayli, member of the YSP Political Bureau, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, and interior minister; Dr Salim 'Umar Bukayr, member of the YSP Central Committee and secretary of the Central Committee; and Salih Sha'if, first secretary of the Yemeni Socialist Youths Union Central Committee.

Brother Dr Salim 'Umar Bukayr delivered the address of the party and state during the festival, in which he hailed — on behalf of the YSP Central Committee — the Soviet comrades working in our country and the Soviet masses on the occasion of the convening of the 27th CPSU Congress. He noted that the Soviet people are looking forward to the resolutions of the congress and its effect on constructing the life and developing it in various economic, social, and educational fields.

He noted the growing role of the Soviet Union and the socialist countries in achieving security and stability and deterring any threat of wars and the hostile attempts of the imperialist, Zionist, and reactionary powers and racial discrimination. He lauded the honest internationalist support given by the Soviet Union to our country and Arab peoples for the fortification of their national independence and sovereignty. He lauded the stance of the Soviet Union and the socialist countries by the side of our people and revolution, following the conspiracy witnessed by our country on bloody 13 January, which was led by conspirator 'Ali Nasir and his clique by striking at the various economic installations.

An address was also delivered on behalf of the Yemeni Socialist Youths Union Central Committee and the academy's administration and the Soviet educational mission working in it. It pointed out the importance of the convening of the congress, considering it is an historic achievement not only for establishing appropriate resolutions and solutions for completing the task of constructing the developed socialist society, but also because it will set the horizons for the practical revolutionary and modern progress and will ensure the execution of tasks and defined targets of international revolution.

The participants addressed a congratulatory cable on behalf of the YSP and the Yemeni Socialist Union in Aden and the teachers and students and employees of the 'Abdallah Ba Dhib Martyr's Academy for Scientific Socialist and the higher school for youths cadres to the 27th CPSU Congress, wishing success for the congress' work.

QATAR

Algerian Foreign Minister Arrives for 3-Day Visit

GF251711 Manama WAKH in English 1615 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] Manama, 25 Feb (WAKH) — Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi arrived Tuesday from Manama on a three-day visit to Qatar in the course of a Gulf tour.

In a statement on his arrival, the Algerian official said the objective of his visit was to consult with Qatari officials on Arab issues and bilateral relations. The current situation in the Gulf particularly the Iraq-Iran war will also be discussed, he added.

SAUDI ARABIA

Paper Reports on Arab Draft Resolution on Gulf War

GF211423 Riyadh AL-RIYAD in Arabic 20 Feb 86 pp 1, 23

[Dispatch from New York by Ahmad Husayn al-Yami]

[Excerpt] *AL-RIYAD* has learned that the Arab draft resolution that will be submitted to the UN Security Council at the end of its current discussion of the war between Iraq and Iran will revolve around the following points:

1. Appealing to the two sides of the conflict to observe an immediate cease fire;
2. Withdrawal of the forces of both parties to the international border;
3. Stationing international forces in a buffer zone on the international border between the two countries;
4. An exchange of prisoners of war;
5. Beginning negotiations to find a peaceful settlement to the conflict.

In an exclusive statement to *AL-RIYAD*, Muhammad Ibrahim Mas'ud, leader of the Kingdom's delegation to the meetings of the UN Security Council, said that the tour carried out by Foreign Minister His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, which included Damascus and Baghdad, would have a strong effect on the Kingdom's efforts to unify the stands of the Arab group concerning the escalation of the Iraq-Iran war, particularly during the extraordinary sessions of the UN Security Council.

UAE

WAKH: Finance Minister on 1986 State Budget

GF251903 Manama WAKH in English 1600 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 25 Feb (WAKH) — UAE Minister of Finance and Industry Shaykh Hamdan ibn Rashid al-Maktum said the general budget estimates for 1986 fiscal year would be reviewed in light of the decline in revenue resulting from the collapse of oil prices in the international market.

No plans exist, at present, to impose taxes or lower government employees salaries as a result of the decline in oil prices, he said.

In a statement published here today, he said the 15 percent cut demanded by the Ministry of Finance from other ministries in last year's budget was not calculated on the basis of the sharp decline of oil prices to less than 15 dollars a barrel.

On government plans to contain the accumulated deficit in the budget in line with the decline in oil price, he said the present fluctuations in oil prices does not help in drawing reliable estimates for revenues and as such no specific cut rate could be worked out.

He expected that the plans to reduce the budget deficit would continue on the line of austerity measures designed to curb spending particularly in unnecessary and luxury projects.

Oil prices will again rise despite being unexpectedly on the decline during winter he said and attributed the sharp decline in oil prices to speculation and higher rates of production by exporting countries.

Paper Discusses Palestinian-Jordanian Relations

GF241031 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0705 GMT 24 Feb 86

[From the press review]

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 24 Feb (WAM) — The UAE newspaper *AL-FAJR* has stated that an important conclusion can come out of the halting of joint political moves between Jordan and the PLO leadership. This important conclusion is that the reasons which caused the collapse of the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement "also led to the collapse of all charges levelled against 'Arafat over the past period by Arab and Palestinian sides. Moreover, this resulted in the collapse of all reasoning proclaimed by some Palestinian factions to justify breaking away from the PLO." The paper pointed out that there is currently no room for differences for the PLO and its leadership with the opposition as "all of the ready reactions which justified rejecting the restoration of Palestinian unity disappeared with the announcement of the collapse of the Amman agreement."

Despite *AL-FAJR*'s view that the collapse of the Amman agreement is evidence of all of the Palestinian factions' adherence to their people's constant rights and their unwillingness to abandon these rights or to lose them, yet the paper strongly warned that "the alternatives for the Amman agreement can be extremely grave and can bring about extremely grave consequences."

The paper indicated that among these dangers is the possibility "of moving in the direction of a unilateral settlement despite Jordan's hitherto resistance to the U.S. and Israeli pressures to move in this direction."

Concluding, the paper called editorially for the elimination of all of the Palestinian differences and called on all of the active Arab powers to back the unity and the struggle of the Palestinian people.

YAR

People's Constituent Assembly Discusses Budget

GF241849 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Excerpts] The People's Constituent Assembly held its routine session this morning under the chairmanship of brother 'Abd al-Karim al-'Arashi, vice president, chairman of the assembly, and member of the Standing Committee. They reviewed and discussed the report submitted by the committee formed by the assembly to study the general state budget and the budgets of the public and mixed sector, the Awqaf Ministry, and the retirement fund for the 1986 financial year.

The general state budget totalled 9.9444 billion riyals. The overall revenues and expenses in the budget of the public and mixed sector totalled 13.883 billion riyals and the funds in the budget of the Awqaf Ministry totalled 59 million riyals. The expenses from the budget for the retirement fund totalled 283 million riyals. Regarding the total state revenues, the total assessments in the general state budget plan for 1986 totalled 7.1791 billion riyals. The committee's report reviewed by the assembly comprised a number of remarks and proposals for the financial statement of the government and principles for the implementation of the general state budget and its addendums.

Regarding the excavation and discovery of oil and mineral resources, the report hoped for success for our country in this field, particularly in the Ma'rib, to be an incentive to all of us to use this important national wealth to the maximum in the comprehensive development of our country and in the increase of production and raising the standard of the society.

Prime Minister on PDRY Events, Yemeni Unity

GF251927 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1808 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Speech by 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, YAR prime minister and member of the Standing Committee, at a ceremony marking the graduation of the 18th group of police officers in Sanaa on 25 February — recorded]

[Excerpt] Brothers: Our leadership and people have been following the developments of events in the southern part of the homeland since the beginning and have expressed their regret and pain at the damage, destruction, and bloodshed. Our country exerted great efforts with the fraternal and friendly countries to contain the problem and held contacts with the conflicting parties to exert joint efforts to stop the fighting and to remedy the problems. Our country also explained to all fraternal and friendly countries the danger of interfering in the affairs of the southern part of the homeland and warned against any kind of interference which will only drag the region into further problems and dangers which should be avoided.

We also sent a number of trucks loaded with supplies and medicine, made available by official and popular organs, to take part in the relief efforts for the wounded and those who were affected and to ease the tragedy, but due to reasons beyond our will, these trucks could not reach the sons of our people in the southern part of the homeland. Despite that, our country continued to work to end the struggle in the southern part through fraternal dialogue and democratic practice in order to avoid complicating the situation and to absorb the effects caused by the events on the basis of our respect for the northern part of the homeland and the immortal 26 September Revolution, which is considered to be the mother revolution which enabled our people to explode their liberation revolution against British colonialism in 1963. [applause]

The northern part had been the fort which provided the armed revolution against colonialism with men until victory was achieved. We did this because we had faith in the unity of the people and land and as part of our continuous work to draw nearer the date of declaring unity, for which our people are looking forward to in light of the noble objectives of the immortal 26 September Revolution. Therefore, we will continue to work with the brothers in the southern part of the homeland to draw nearer that great date through fraternal, peaceful, and honest dialogue and through democratic means and practical steps based on objectivity and the supreme interest of our Yemeni people. There is no doubt that our concern about the issue of Yemeni unity reflects our concern for the issue of the Yemeni people and all the issues of the comprehensive national construction for the Yemeni land, society, revolution, and individual.

Mubarak Holds Talks With Greek Premier

NC251609 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] President Husni Mubarak held talks this morning with the prime minister of Greece. The talks focused on Middle East issues and bilateral cooperation in various fields. They also discussed developments in the Gulf war following the recent Iranian offensive, as well as the situation in Lebanon.

During the talks, President Mubarak made a comprehensive review of current issues related to the establishment of peace in the Middle East. He also discussed how Egypt views the role that the European Community could play in this area, namely the promotion of peace efforts, contacts with parties concerned, and the submission of appropriate proposals to narrow the gap among the various stands.

The Greek prime minister raised basic issues of concern to his country on the international level, as well as issues related to security and peace in Europe. The two sides agreed to consolidate bilateral relations. They also expressed the hope that meetings between the officials of the two countries would lead to further cooperation.

Al-Baz on Talks With Greece

NC251616 Cairo MENA in English 1523 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] Cairo, Feb 25 (MENA) — Dr Usamah al-Baz, first foreign undersecretary and President Husni Mubarak's political advisor, said that the talks of President Mubarak and Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou focused on the Middle East issues.

Dr Al-Baz added that the talks also covered the enhancing of cooperation between the two countries in numerous domains particularly in the economic and technical fields.

This was stated by Dr al-Baz following the two-hour meeting of President Mubarak and the Greek official today.

Dr al-Baz said that during the meeting President Mubarak gave a full account of the current Middle East issues, particularly the issue of peace and the means by which to resume the peace efforts within the context of the present situation between Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation leadership as well as the need for preserving the momentum.

He further said that President Mubarak also apprised Papandreou on Egypt's view on the role that could be played by the European group in consolidating the peace efforts and in communicating directly with the parties concerned and the presenting of ideas that the European countries find useful and suitable to bridge the gap between stances. Developments of the Gulf war in the post Iranian offensive period as well as the situation in Lebanon were tackled at the meeting.

Dr al-Baz said that the Greek prime minister reviewed the major issues of interest to his country, such as relations with Turkey and issues pertaining to peace and security in the European continent.

He added that President Mubarak and the Greek guest agreed at the close of their talks on buttressing cooperation between the two countries in the different domains and expressed hope that the future meetings and contacts between the officials of the both countries give an impetus to this cooperation.

Answering queries by reporters and foreign correspondents on the chances of resuming coordination between Jordan and the PLO, Dr al-Baz said that the peace efforts were passing through difficult circumstances, adding that President Mubarak made clear that this situation should not be considered the end of efforts or their stoppage.

He further said "we are seeking to contain the difference in the coming period," adding "we do not want the Arab side to bear the responsibility of halting the peace efforts or freezing the situation".

He further said that future developments hinge upon the preparedness of the two parties to realize rapprochement adding that this would probably take some time.

Asked about the chances of a summit meeting in the near future between President Mubarak and King Husayn of Jordan, Dr al-Baz said that there were no arrangements for such a meeting but affirmed that intensive contacts would take place between the Egyptian, Jordanian and Palestinian leaderships in the coming weeks.

On declaration made by Jordanian Royal Court Chief Marwan al-Qasim yesterday that the difference was between Jordan and the PLO leadership, Dr al-Baz said that Al-Qasim's declaration made clear that Jordan was still committed to the agreement of February 11, 1985.

He added that other issues could be settled in the coming weeks.

Mubarak, Lutfi Meet Papandreou

NC261423 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1415 GMT 26 Feb 86

[Text] Cairo, 26 Feb (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak met this afternoon with Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou before his departure from Cairo at the end of a 3-day visit to Egypt. The meeting was also attended by Prime Minister Dr 'Ali Lutfi.

Papandreou Leaves Cairo

NC261509 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1435 GMT 26 Feb 86

[Text] Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou left Cairo this afternoon at the end of a 3-day visit to Egypt. During his stay, the Greek Prime minister had talks with President Husni Mubarak and Prime Minister Dr 'Ali Lutfi on a number of issues, foremost of which were the Middle East and relations between Egypt and Greece.

Dozens Hurt, Hotels Burned as Police Conscripts Riot

Service Extension Protested

NC252120 Paris AFP in English 2108 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] Cairo, Feb 25 (AFP) — Dozens of rioters were seriously hurt Tuesday following three hours of violent clashes west of here between riot police and conscripts protesting an extension of their mandatory service in the police force, correspondents on the scene reported.

They said they saw several bodies lying on the ground, but were unable to say whether anybody had been killed. Police immediately sealed off the area. The rioters, estimated at several thousands, set fire to a police station, an annex of the Mena House Hotel and several cars.

The conscripts, most of them from a nearby recruiting center, were protesting a decision to extend by another year the mandatory three years and a half they must serve in the police force.

Hotels Burned, Shots Heard

NC252226 Paris AFP in English 2224 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] Cairo, Feb 26 (AFP) — Dozens of victims were lying on the ground after a three-hour riot at the foot of the Pyramids late Tuesday between Egyptian police conscripts and riot police. Rioters set fire to several luxury hotels. It was not immediately known if there were deaths. But a person living near the scene said shots were heard briefly a short time before 0900 GMT.

Several thousand conscripts protesting an extension of the mandatory service in the police force, sallied out of a nearby training center and burned the Pyramids police station in an annex of the posh Mena House Hotel. They ransacked the Mena House lobby and several buses. The Jolie Ville Hotel of the Swiss chain Movenpick was partly burned, witnesses said.

At 0900 GMT, anti-riot brigades were pursuing fugitives across the Pyramids plateau near the Sphynx to the town of Al-Jizah several kilometers (miles) farther north. Police barred news correspondents from the riot scene. But they could see several buildings of the Jolie Ville Hotel still burning, and several dozen charred vehicles.

Neighbors said the conscripts were protesting because their three and one half year term of service had been extended by one year.

Night clubs along Pyramids Avenue dimmed their neon signs to avoid attacting furious rioters. Telephone communication to the riot area was cut off. Several hundred people barred by police from returning to their homes in that neighborhood were preparing to sleep under the stars.

Police conscripts are mostly poorly-educated farm youths, 18 to 21 years old. They are ill-clothed, ill-housed, badly fed and underpaid (the equivalent of about 20 dollars a month). They mostly have the thankless task of directing traffic. They have to ask bypassers for tips ("bakshish") for showing them where to park their cars, or helping to push broken-down cars.

'False Rumor' Sparked Riot

NC252241 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2210 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] Cairo, 25 Feb (MENA) — MENA has learned that a number of Central Security soldiers in the area of Al-Haram and Dahshur have been stirred up by a false rumor. A MENA correspondent says that a false rumor was circulated by certain people to the effect that Central Security soldiers who have finished their 3-year service would not be discharged and that they would have to serve for 3 more years.

Accordingly, a number of Central Security soldiers came out of the camps and damaged cars and houses in the neighboring area. The interior minister and senior ministry officials went to the scene to investigate the source of the false rumor and interrogate the soldiers who went on the rampage.

'Special Forces' Face Rioters

NC260606 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0504 GMT 26 Feb 86

[Text] A number of policemen in a camp in the Al-Haram [pyramids] area yesterday evening attacked cars, houses, and tourist sites and set fires in the Al-Haram area in the Al-Jizah Governorate, following rumors about a decision to extend their years of service. Policemen also smashed cars in neighborhood streets.

Our radio correspondent has learned that the interior minister and senior ministry officials went to the scene of the incident. It has been learned that a special forces unit has confronted the soldiers [as heard] to check the riots and attacks on the installations in the area, to protect the citizens, and to secure the roads. The unit has also arrested the fleeing soldiers.

A security source said that a statement will be issued on the incident. The Interior Ministry has imposed a curfew as of 0600 today until further notice in the area between the Al-Jizah Tunnel east to milestone 5 along the Cairo-Al-Fayyum Road, and from milestone 40 along the Cairo Desert Road north to the Al-Mashabik Circle of King Faysal Street, at the point where it meets with the Cairo-Alexandria Desert Road south. Only doctors, pharmacists, and bakers, all of whom must show identification will be allowed to pass. Public service vehicles, such as ambulances, and those belonging to the fire department, police, and armed forces will also be allowed to pass.

Tanks Fire on Police Camp

HK260622 Hong Kong AFP in English 0600 GMT 26 Feb 86

[Text] Cairo, Feb 26 (AFP) — Egyptian Army tanks opened fire with cannon and machine guns early on Wednesday morning on a police camp in Guizeh west of Cairo following a major riot there by young police conscripts, witnesses reported. Troops in battle-dress and armed with assault rifles later took up position outside the Interior and Foreign ministries and at the Sheraton-Guizeh

crossroads, which commands the access to the city centre. Military police had cordoned off Avenue Tahrir leading to Guizeh.

Army Replaces Police at Airport

NC260659 Paris AFP in English 0654 GMT 26 Feb 86

[Text] Cairo, Feb 26 (AFP) — Cairo airport was closed to international traffic shortly after 8:15 a.m. (0615 GMT) Wednesday, after riots by police conscripts in an area near the Pyramids, airport sources said. Gunshots were heard around the airport, according to nearby residents, but it was not clear whether the firing had taken place before or after it was closed. Airport sources said the airport was entirely under military control early Wednesday.

Some police conscripts had been working at the airport but were relieved early Wednesday by soldiers, the sources said. The move followed the institution of a curfew in the Al-Jizah tourist area in Cairo's western suburbs, which is where the Pyramids are located, after police conscripts rioted over a reported extension of their conscription period. Two hotels were destroyed and another was damaged by fire in the riot.

'Normal' Air Traffic Reported

NC261005 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0955 GMT 26 Feb 86

[Text] Cairo, 26 Feb (MENA) — Air traffic at Cairo International Airport is normal. An airport official has announced that arrivals and departures are regular and continuous. A plane from the Netherlands landed at the airport this morning.

Situation 'Completely Normal'

NC261034 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 26 Feb 86

[Excerpt] We would like to state that everything is completely normal and that the curfew is merely a precautionary measure. Its goal is to deny any suspect elements the opportunity to undermine security or public order.

We appeal to our brother citizens to be calm, to control themselves, to behave as they always do, and to act on the basis of their consciousness, identification with this nation, and their concern for its continued safety and security.

Reports of Violence 'Groundless'

NC261136 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 26 Feb 86

[Excerpts] Our correspondent has reported that helicopters flew over the pyramids in the Al-Jizah area, and that Armed Forces armored vehicles took control over strategic points along the main roads, from the center of Cairo to the Al-Ahram [pyramids] area.

The minister of information has stated that reports by certain radios and news agencies to the effect that acts of violence had taken place in central Cairo and in the vicinity of the Swiss Embassy are completely groundless. He added that the facts are those broadcast by Cairo radio. He also said that it is completely untrue that Cairo radio and television have interupted their regular programs, as certain radios have said.

Heavy Gunfire Heard

NC261212 Paris AFP in English 1206 GMT 26 Feb 86

[Text] Cairo, Feb 26 (AFP) — Heavy gunfire was heard in central Cairo Wednesday after the Egyptian Government called in tanks and troops to quell rioting, which erupted Tuesday in a Cairo suburb near the pyramids. Army troops and light armored vehicles were stationed in the center of the capital.

Meanwhile, a curfew which was due to come into force at 1100 GMT was delayed until 1400 GMT, Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif announced. The gunfire was heard at 1:45 p.m. (1145 GMT).

Police conscripts rioted Tuesday believing that their three-year conscription was to be extended by a year, but the government news agency MENA denied this. The shooting in the center appeared to come from a district situated between Al-Azhar University and the city of the dead, a sprawling cemetery not far away, close to Army barracks. A plume of black smoke was rising from a cluster of high-rise buildings.

The shooting also spread to the fashionable southern suburb of Al-Ma'adi, where many diplomats live, and demonstrations took place there and in Hulwan, Cairo's industrial zone.

A western military attache said that the gunfire in Al-Ma'adi continued into Wednesday afternoon, and that the shooting in central Cairo, which had been near the Army barracks at the foot of Muqattam Hill, was now less intense.

Carrying Weapons Forbidden

NC261216 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1135 GMT 26 Feb 86

[Text] A responsible source has announced that in a bid to protect Egypt's safety and the safety of its factories and other establishments — some of which have been the targets of arson and rioting that only harm Egypt's economy — it has been decided to forbid completely the carrying of arms or any movement during the curfew. This will ensure that the safety of the public is not endangered, and will allow it to carry out its national duties and give officials a chance to expose those involved in the riots.

A responsible source at Cairo International Airport has stated that air traffic there is normal, and that arrivals and departurs are both regular and continuing.

Schools Cancel Classes

NC261346 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1335 GMT 26 Feb 86

[Text] It has been decided to cancel classes tomorrow, Thursday, at all Education Ministry schools in Greater Cairo, which includes Cairo and the urban areas of Al-Jizah and Al-Qalyubiyah Governorates. Cairo University also has decided to cancel classes in all its colleges tomorrow.

Situation 'Stable'

NC261353 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1343 GMT 26 Feb 86

[Text] Cairo, 26 Feb (MENA) — Responsible sources at the Interior Ministry have stressed that the security situation in Greater Cairo is stable. These sources announced that classes have been canceled tomorrow as a precautionary measure and that a statement will be issued on this. They added that a number of common criminals who escaped from Turah Prison have been recaptured in the last few hours.

Radio Issues Warning

NC261402 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1336 GMT 26 Feb 86

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] Brother citizens: Your Egyptian information media are the honest mirror that give you the facts without exaggeration or deception. Your country's radios are the sincere voice that conveys the undistorted truth. Therefore, beware of the tendentious rumors being spread by certain foreign radios hostile to you and your dear country, Egypt. Rest assured that we will bring you the whole truth. Truth is the path of the faithful, and we all believe in our dear Egypt and its bright future, God willing.

'Troublemakers' Isolated Group

NC261440 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1425 GMT 26 Feb 86

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] Brother citizens: Beloved Egypt is a fortress of security and stability in the area. Our people will not allow an isolated group of troublemakers to harm this security and stability. Our people, thanks to their profound vigilance and loyalty to their homeland, will not allow this group to damage any utility or destroy any factory or any public or private property. Egypt is our homeland and everything here belongs to us and to our sons and to future generations.

Al-Sharif on Violence, Curfew

NC261340 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1127 GMT 26 Feb 86

[Interview with Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif by unidentified Cairo Radio correspondent; place not given — live]

[Excerpts] [Question] Mr Minister, on this occasion, we would like you to tell our listeners something about yesterday's incidents. How did they start and how far did they go?

[Al-Sharif] First, I would like to say something. The curfew will start at 1600; this will allow people to get home safely. It had been said that the notice given was too short and that the streets are now crowded. Some citizens, even pedestrians, were afraid, lest they be late. This is especially true now that public buses and taxis are crowded. Therefore, we inform the public that the curfew will begin at 1600 so they can get what they need.

A number of conscripts were apparently provoked in their camps in Al-Ahram with a rumor that their term of service would be extended. Some had expected to complete their service in a few days. So, the rumor spread of an extension of 1 year or more. This prompted some of them to stage demonstrations in violation of the rules of discipline. The situation began to escalate. They attacked and smashed cars belonging to citizens who had nothing to do with the matter. Rioters joined them and it developed into the destruction of shops. Hotels in the area were also attacked and set on fire. This went on for many long hours amid attempts to calm things down. Since some of these people got off on the wrong foot, they carried on. All this happened despite a statement describing the rumor as baseless. Thus, the limited curfew was declared over the radio at 0200 or slightly thereafter. The Armed Forces intervened to guarantee the safety of the public, their facilities, and foreigners and hotels in the area, which firefighting teams could not reach. In the final analysis, these hotels are a form of national wealth. They represent the taxpayers money.

[Question] Exactly sir. Therefore, we are saying that the curfew is in the interests of both the country and the public.

[Al-Sharif] I would like to point out that the curfew is no cause for alarm. Of course, some of those people have escaped and some of the instigators are spread here and there. The curfew is a precautionary measure and its goal is the full restoration of order, as this is a matter of Egypt's economy and security. It also concerns public security. The citizens and their cars were what was hurt and damaged yesterday. It was an irresponsible act of aggression against shops. Thus, the purpose of the curfew is to safeguard Egypt's security and that of the citizen above all else. We should not be alarmed, for this is a precautionary measure to deal with a situation that could have serious repercussions. As such, it must be treated decisively and firmly. This precautionary measure seeks to defend Egypt and its economy, and we, as citizens, should appreciate this, contribute to the establishment of order, and help our officials.

[Question] We really are cooperating with our officials in order to avoid the consequences of these events.

[Al-Sharif] There is no doubt about that. If anyone managed to get away with weapons, the security forces will move in order to maintain security easily and to reveal these individuals, whose ultimate goal is sabotage and attacks on our people. This is for the safety of our citizens and Egypt as a whole.

[Question] Mr Minister, certain news agencies have reported that crowds, demonstrations, and rioting have spread to central Cairo.

[Al-Sharif] I have some reports here. One agency says the riots are on Tal'at Harb [downtown street]. Our fellow citizens are there. There are no demonstrations on Tal'at Harb or any other street. Some say that Cairo airport is closed. This is all speculation, which is completely baseless. Therefore, I say to my fellow citizens, keep listening to Cairo Radio, as nothing will be hidden from you. We are telling you everything. When there was a curfew, we said so. When a number of conscripts demonstrated, we announced it before any other station. We did so because we are careful and because the citizen is an inseparable part of the nation. The nation is the citizen. Nothing will be hidden. We should not listen to false claims of demonstrations here and there. All this is baseless.

Curfew in Effect

NC261504 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1435 GMT 26 Feb 86

[Text] Cairo, 26 Feb (MENA) — The curfew imposed on Greater Cairo, which includes Cairo city and the urban areas of the Al-Jizah and Al-Qalyubiyah governorates, went into effect at 1600 today. It will remain in force until further notice. Only doctors, pharmacists, media, and bakery workers will be allowed out and they must show their identity cards. No vehicles except those of the public services, such as ambulances, fire engines, police and Army vehicles, will be permitted on the streets.

This afternoon, Cairo television showed a film of the incidents that occurred in the pyramid areas. Pictures were shown of the armored vehicles that are pursuing the rioters responsible for these incidents. Their task is to restore security and calm and not to give any suspicious element the opportunity to try to disrupt security or order. The television service also broadcast pictures of certain tourist places that were attacked by the rioters and the fire damage which resulted.

Police Riot in Asyut

NC261528 Paris AFP in English 1507 GMT 26 Feb 86

[Excerpt] Cairo, Feb 26 (AFP) — Rebellious police set fire to the headquarters of traffic operations in Asyut, 385 kms (240 miles) south of Cairo, during demonstrations there, a local correspondent said. The Army had taken up position at strategic points in the town and taken over two police training camps near Asyut, where a rebellion began. According to unconfirmed reports one person had died in clashes and several other buildings been damaged.

'Calm' Restored in Cairo

NC261539 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 26 Feb 86

[Text] Official sources at the Interior Ministry have stated that the situation has been stabilized in Greater Cairo, which includes the City of Cairo and the urban areas in Al-Jizah and Al-Qalyubiyah governorates. They also say that calm is gradually being restored in all parts of the Republic as a result of the citizens' response to the need to safeguard their homeland's security.

Our correspondent has learned that some troublemakers tried to set fire to some tourist places on Pyramid Street and to a metro train at Hulwan. They also shot at citizens and cars in the Al-Ma'adi area. However, members of the Armed Forces assigned to guard these areas arrested the troublemakers, with cooperation from the citizens. Our correspondent has further learned that more than 600 foreign tourists, who were staying at hotels in the Pyramid area, have been transferred to a hotel in the capital.

Prime Minister Lutfi Presides at Cabinet Meeting

NC261207 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1158 GMT 26 Feb 86

[Text] Cairo, 26 Feb (MENA) — The Cabinet held a meeting at noon today under the chairmanship of Prime Minister 'Ali Lutfi.

Lutfi Statement Expected

NC261340 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1330 GMT 26 Feb 86

[Text] Cairo, 26 Feb (MENA) — The Cabinet emergency meeting ended at 1430 today. Attending were the ministers and Dr Usamah al-Baz, first Foreign Ministry under secretary and director of the Presidential Office for Foreign Affairs. Later today, Prime Minister Dr Lutfi will make a statement on the Cabinet meeting at Al-'Urubah Palace, where he will see off the Greek prime minister.

Tariq 'Aziz Returns From UN Session in New York

JN252025 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1905 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 25 Feb (INA) — Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, returned to Baghdad this evening after participating in the UN Security Council discussion of the Iranian aggression against Iraq.

Saudi Foreign Minister Leaves Baghdad

JN251842 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal left Baghdad this evening following a visit of several days to Iraq. He was seen off at the airport by Latif Nusayyif Jasim, minister of culture and information and acting foreign minister; Nuri Isma'il, Foreign Ministry under secretary; and the Saudi ambassador in Baghdad.

Assembly Speaker Returns From Kuwait Visit

JN251558 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1530 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 25 Feb (INA) — Iraqi National Assembly Speaker Dr Sa'dun Hammadi returned to Baghdad today after a visit to Kuwait, during which he represented President Saddam Husayn and the Iraqi Government at celebrations of the 25th anniversary of Kuwait's national day. In a statement to INA, Hammadi said that this occasion is a source of happiness for all because it is the independence anniversary of an Arab state which Iraq respects and appreciates.

Hammadi expressed pride in the interest shown by Kuwaiti officials and people toward the causes of the Arab nation, especially the Iraq-Iran war, and in the enthusiasm all Kuwaitis are expressing in terms of standing by Iraq in confronting the Iranian aggression and destroying the forces of aggression.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iran

INA Reports VII Army Corps Progress

JN261201 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1125 GMT 26 Feb 86

[Text] Basra, 26 Feb (INA) — An INA correspondent in the VII Army Corps sector has said that the Iraqi forces' storming of the Iranian positions one after another has forced the Iranian command to evacuate several military divisions that have suffered large losses from the battlefield.

In a telephone conversation with the INA office at noon today, the correspondent expected the advancing Iraqi forces to accomplish singificant tasks today. He added that the area from which the Iranian forces have retreated under the Iraqi fighters' huge firepower amounts to tens of kilometers.

He stressed that the Iranian bodies were piled up in the temporary passes and fortifications set up by the Iranians and that the distances separating the Iraqi forces from the arena of direct combat have become very close after the violent Iraqi firepower had isolated the Iranian forces' retreat routes and barred them from withdrawing to the rear.

The INA correspondent also said that he saw a blazing wall of fire and dense black smoke gradually disappearing to give rise to another wall of fire in what seemed to be a large-scale combing operation. He added that the combing operation, in which artillery, launchers, and helicopter gunships are used, is accompanied by coordinated advance of Iraqi armor and vehicles, supported by light and medium infantry weapons.

Commander Holds Press Conference

JN261238 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1130 GMT 26 Feb 86

[Radio dispatch from battlefront]

[Text] Ladies and gentlemen, the radio mission once again extends to you the greetings of victory. It greets you from the VII Army Corps sector and relays to you the news of victory from the battlefront. By dispatching such a large number of Khomeyni guards across Shatt al-'Arab, aggressor Iran has not achieved a military feat. Frankly, we are very pleased with this influx, since we are now annihilating the enemy. We will not allow the enemy to cross again. The whole of Iran will come out of this battle badly scarred. This came in the statement made by the commander of the VII Army Corps at the news conference he held this morning and attended by representatives of Arab and foreign news agencies and press. The radio mission was well represented at this major news conference.

Replying to a question by the radio mission about the position of our heroic forces on the battlefronts within the VII Army Corps and also about the hostile forces in the pocket of death, the commander said:

[Begin recording] The information we can give is that so far we have clashed with about seven Iranian divisions. I can say that the Iranian military leadership has cleverly succeeded in concentrating them in this pocket in order to be annihilated. The pocket has become a slaughterhouse due to the superior firepower of our air force and artillery. So far, we have identified seven divisions, all of them Khomeyni guards. On the other hand, we have clashed with only a limited number of elements from the regular forces. This is as far as the strength of (?the enemy) is concerned. [end recording]

In reply to a question by an Arab correspondent on the location of the Iranian bridges which our eagles have destroyed, the commander said: The destroyed bridges are not over Shatt al-'Arab but are scattered in various areas inside Iran, especially the Qarun and Bahmanshir areas which used to reinforce hostile forces in the pocket of death.

The commander of the VII Army Corps announced the good tidings to the masses of our people and Arab nation and all honorable men in the world by saying that the liquidation of the enemy in the Mamlahah area is imminent. He said that 90 percent of the enemy tanks have been completely destroyed, and

the enemy is now an easy target for all types of Iraqi weapons and the hammer of death.

Regarding the situation in Al-Faw, the commander of the VII Army Corps said: We and our heroic fighters are continuing our advance to liberate Al-Faw. It must be cleansed of the filth of the renegade enemies, because we possess all the means of liberation. Iraq's flag will fly high over beloved Al-Faw.

Enemy Losses Exceed Calculations

JN251327 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Excerpt] A military field commander in the heroic VII Army Corps sector, has affirmed that the enemy losses since the beginning of the battle have exceeded all calculations. He said that our valiant forces crushed complete Iranian divisions and that our fire set ablaze all the reinforcements that the enemy tried to drive into the Al-Mamalih area in an attempt to avoid total collapse and to replace its forces whose corpses have littered the battlefield. This came in a statement made today by the field commander, a staff brigadier general, to the correspondents of Baghdad radio, Voice of the Masses radio, and the Iraqi radio beamed to Europe who are on the battlefields. He said that our forces have settled on their positions, imposed absolute control over them, and sealed off the collapsed enemy forces, which were striken by panic and frustration. The military field commander stressed that the valiant Iraqi men's victory is certain and that no force can alter this fact.

Air Force To Strike 'Inside Iran'

JN251414 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1340 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] Baghdad, 25 Feb (INA) — The commander of the Iraqi Air Force and Air Defense has asserted that the Air Force is now only in the first phase of the battle to crush the aggressor Iranian forces and that it will move to subsequent phases in accordance with an outlined plan. Air Force Commander Lieutenant General Hamid Sha'ban said that subsequent phases include pursuing the aggressors and destroying certain vital targets inside Iran.

In a statement to INA, the commander added that the operation to crush the Iranian forces in the Al-Faw triangle is in its final phase after Iraqi forces succeeded in drawing the Iranian aggressors into a pocket of death prior to annihilating them completely. The Air Force commander affirmed that the Iraqi Air Force is in absolute control over the battle area and is deep inside Iran. This, he said, has been proven by the support given to the ground forces — a support unprecedented in the history of modern war.

Final Victory Termed 'Imminent'

JN260738 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0645 GMT 26 Feb 86

[By Usamah al-Salihi]

[Text] Baghdad, 26 Feb (INA) The forward Iraqi units at the VII Army Corps front are reinforcing their positions and destroying the Iranian attempts to approach them. They are thus paving the way for an advance toward Al-Mamalih and the center of Al-Faw. The Iraqi forces have entrenched themselves in the defensive positions which were liberated during the past 2 days in the area of the southern and central columns. These forces are now in full control of the situation.

Despite the bad weather which prevailed during the last 48 hours, the Iraqi forces managed with their heavy fire to foil four Iranian attempts to approach their positions. The Iraqi units in the southern and central axes are getting closer to their new target in the center of the Al-Mamalih area after destroying the Iranian positions and ramparts by the accurate strikes of helicopter gunships, launchers, and artillery.

AL-THAWRAH reports from the battlefront that the central and southern columns are about to meet at a new starting point. This meeting will lead to the destruction of the remaining Iranian forces on Iraqi territory. The Iranian leadership realizes this and is desperately trying to prevent it by driving into the battlefield successive columns of its units which are destroyed by the Iraqi forces.

The forward Iraqi units have succeeded in containing the Iranian counteroffensives. The Iraqi military command is wisely dealing with the situation. It is dealing more destructive blows not only to the Iranian forward positions but also to their rear positions and concentrations, and their supply lines in Al-Faw and across the Shatt al-'Arab waterway. The military developments in the battlefield today confirm that the Iraqi forces are now better able to maneuver and use additional weapons which were not previoulsy widely used due to topographical reasons.

The new position reached by the Iraqi forward units has created more favorable conditions for the Iraqi fighters' advance and for better coordination among the three columns in their thrust to surround the Iranians from all sides and to pounce on what is left of them.

While these Iraqi units are in firm control of the battlefield, the Iraqi Air Force and Navy continue to provide effective support for these units by directing fatal strikes at the Iranian forces from the air and sea. All attempts by the Iranians to infiltrate or send more supplies to their besieged units have failed.

The Iraqi Navy has intensified its combat operations by striking at Iranian naval targets, including Iranian ports. In fact, Iraq succeeded in destroying two large oil tankers last Sunday. Sources close to international insurance companies have acknowledged the efficacy of these Iraqi strikes, which also confirm the Iraqi Navy's absolute supremacy in the Arab Gulf waters.

With the improvement of the weather conditions after 2 rainy days, Iraqi aircraft this morning began intensive strikes at Iranian positions and rear supply lines. Iraqi pilots are expected to carry out more successful combat missions in the battlefield and also deep inside Iran similar to the operations they have carried out since the beginning of these battles and which reached 7,598 missions.

Photographs published in today's papers show the heavy damage caused by last week's Iraqi air raids on bridges deep inside Iran. The damage to these bridges, which linked the communication lines between the various Iranian forces, has helped in tightening the siege on these forces.

The commander of the Iraqi Air Force and Civil Defense has said that these air strikes will be followed by more powerful strikes at Iran's military and economic capabilities. It can be said now that the big turning point in the battle has placed the Iranian forces on the verge of total collapse and destruction and that the announcement of the Iraqi forces' final victory over the invasion forces is imminent.

Communique No 2,128 Issued

JN251754 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Communique No 2,128 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 25 February 1986]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. This is another immortal day for the Iraqis. It is a bright page in the history of courage and sacrifice. The Iraqi soldiers are proceeding on their path, guided by the Almighty, in order to destroy all the invaders' means of aggression and to wipe out their intentions and schemes. The aggression on which the regime of charlatans has relied and for which it mobilized all it has in terms of weapons and mobs is now being defeated and destroyed.

The frontlines are now witnessing the great, expected transformation which will place our forces on the road to decisive victory and which will place the enemy on the brink of a terrible collapse, which is very close, God willing. Despite the Khomeynites' attempts to lie, maneuver, our deceive in this or that sector, this will not change the fact that they have been utterly routed and have suffered unprecedented losses, something which will compromise their very existence and make their scandal unparalleled among the scandals of history.

All this, O glorious Iraqis, has been realized with God's help and with the wise instructions of your leadership, as well as with your persevering fighting and the spirit of sacrifice, altruism, diligence, and determination which will always be the characteristics of the new Iraqi generation and the traits of Iraqi soldiers under all circumstances.

The following is a roundup of activities for last night and today:

1. Our forces in the central columns have strengthened their liberated positions and directed further fire at enemy units, inflict-ing very massive losses. In the southern sector, the enemy made four abortive attempts to advance toward our units last night and this morning. Our men in this brave column confronted all enemy attempts. With effective support from our artillery and armor, our men were able to wipe out all the forces the enemy pushed toward us, with the exception of a few units which fled pursued by tank and artillery fire. The no-man's-land was filled with piles of bodies abandoned by the defeated enemy.

In the northern sector, the situation remained the same. Our forces continued to direct heavy fire at enemy units opposite them, inflicting further losses. Last night's battles proved that the spirit of despair and collapse is permeating enemy ranks and weakening their ability to stand in the face of our brave forces. Thus, the Khomeynites are suffering further losses every day while our forces are continuing their oeprations to purge the chaste soil.

2. The brave men of our helicopter gunships are taking their daily share of heads of enemy soldiers, spreading death and fear among enemy ranks and destroying all the enemy means of aggression they can see. Our helicopters carried out 122 combat missions and returned to their bases safely with God's help.

3. Using their weapons, our units engaged enemy forces opposite them, killing five enemy soldiers and destroying four infantry poisitions and one ammunition dump in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan. They also destroyed one boat in the III Army Corps sector east of al-Basrah and three infantry positions and one machinegun emplacement in the II Army Corps central sector.

4. The forces of evil and aggression shelled Biyarah and Abu al-Khasib with long-range artillery, injuring three civilians and destroying three houses in Abu al-Khasib.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 25 February 1986

King Husayn Says PLO Goes Back on Word, Commitment

JN252037 Amman Television Service in English 2000 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn said that Jordan's differences with the Palestine Liberation Organization's leadership were because it had gone back on its word and commitment. He said that the present opportunity may not last for long or may not be repeated. Addressing popular delegations which flocked to the Hashemite Royal Court to voice support for his majesty's political line contained in last Wednesday's speech, his majesty said that out of his belief that the issue involved Palestinians, Jordanians, and Arabs alike he had to speak frankly with a view to rectifying the course.

His majesty said: The West Bank and the Gaza Strip residents have suffered a great deal, and Jordan will not abandon them. His majesty said: Jordan is the shield protecting the Arab nation, and if Jordan becomes vulnerable the whole Arab nation would be endangered.

His majesty said: There was insistence on the part of the Palestine Liberation Organization leadership to abort the opportunity for a just, durable, and comprehensive settlement of the Palestinian issue, and the only benefector was Israel which continued to carry out its aggressive designs phase after phase at the expense of the Palestinian, Jordanian, and Arab peoples.

His majesty said: We will continue to work with resolve and determination and call on everyone to speak freely in all that involves the future.

The audience at the Royal Court was attended by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the prime minister, and the chief of the Royal Court.

PLO Offices To Continue To Function in Jordan

JN250651 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 25 Feb 86 p 1

[By Lamis K. Andoni, *JORDAN TIMES* staff reporter]

[Text] Amman — The Jordanian Government has officially notified the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) that PLO offices will be allowed to continue to operate in Amman despite the termination of political coordination between the two sides, informed sources said Monday.

The sources said the Jordanian notification was conveyed during a meeting between Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i and PLO Executive Committee member 'Abd al-Razzaw al-Yahya. "The PLO was told that the collapse of coordination between Jordan and the PLO will not affect the status of the organization's offices in Jordan," the sources said.

Sunday's meeting between Mr. al-Rifa'i and Mr al-Yahya was the first since His Majesty King Husayn's announcement last Wednesday that Jordan was unable to continue its political coordination with the leadership of the PLO.

PLO's presence in Jordan has increased since the convening of the Palestine National Council (PNC) in Amman in November 1984. Since then the PNC moved its headquarters from Damascus to Amman and set up a number of subdivisions of its major departments here.

Two of the PLO's major departments — the occupied Arab territories affairs department and the higher education affairs department — are based in Amman.

PLO chairman Yasir 'Arafat has an operating office in Amman, including a research section incorporated in a four-storey building at Jabal al-Nuzhah in north east Amman.

Three PLO Executive Committee members, including Bishop Iliya Khuri, Muhammad Milhim and Mr al-Yahya, 'Arafat adviser Hani al-Hasan and PLO deputy Military Commander Khalil al-Wazir reside in Amman with their families.

The main Palestinian publications, including a daily bulletin by the Palestinian news agency (WAFA), continue to be issued in Amman.

Sham'un on Al-Jumayyil's Trip, W. Beirut Clashes
NC251043 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
0945 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] Following his meeting with President Amin al-Jumayyil, former President Camille Sham'un has repeated that the president's visit to the Vatican, France, and Morocco was successful. He added that the president had sensed that these countries understood the Lebanese situation and position. This did not imply that they were in any way hostile toward Syria.

Replying to a question on the president's meeting with the Syrian ambassador to Morocco, Sham'un said: Of course it was initiated by the Syrian ambassador himself. It might have been in response to his government's recommednation. There is no other explanation. He added: I cannot go as far as to conclude that this meeting broke the ice between the Syrian and Lebanese regimes. However, there was no harm in the ambassador's meeting with President al-Jumayyil.

Asked about the situation in West Beirut, Sham'un said: I think the clashes are isolated and strictly local. The rivalry between the various factions leads to the use of arms. I do not think that a certain party has any plans against Lebanon, the Lebanese, or the Lebanese regime. The rivalry is between armed groups, who use their weapons with incredible alacrity. Former President Sham'un believes that a widespread flare-up is unlikely. He added: If we face the situation with wisdom, logic, and positive action, then there will be no serious trouble among the Lebanese factions.

Syria 'Urgently' Summons Observers From West Beirut
NC260620 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
0545 GMT 26 Feb 86

[Text] At a time when conditions in West Beirut are deteriorating, reliable sources announced today that the Syrian leadership has urgently summoned its observers working in West Beirut for a briefing on the nature of the incidents that have take place there. In one of our newscasts last week, we revealed that the Syrian observers had sent reports to their leaders describing the situation in West Beirut as tragic and likely to flare up.

Chamber Speaker Al-Husayni Returns From Kuwait
NC261045 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
0945 GMT 26 Feb 86

[Text] Speaker Husayn al-Husayni returned to Beirut from Kuwait at 1030 today. During his official visit to Kuwait, he attended the opening session of that country's parliament and held talks with senior Kuwaiti officials.

Amal, PSP Gunmen Clash in W. Beirut
NC251542 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1515 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] Clashes took place between Amal and Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] gunmen in 'A'ishah Bakkar, Al-Zaydaniyah, and Television Corniche [in West Beirut]. The clashes beg[illegible]at 1445 and lasted until 1600, when the special forces and strike forces intervened. These forces stopped the fighting and deployed patrols in the area. The bullets and shells emptied the streets of Al-Zaydaniyah, 'A'ishah Bakkar, Television Corniche, and Tallat al-Khayyat.

Rocket, Machinegun Clashes Occur in Beirut
NC252128 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
2115 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] Clashes involving the use of rockets and machineguns have been going on along the Galerie Sim'an and Mar Mikhayil lines since 2230. The East Beirut areas opposite Galerie Sim'an, Al-Matahin, and Al-Tayyunah were hit earlier by a number of rockets.

Masalih-Qasqas Crossing Point Reopened
NC260845 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0815 GMT 26 Feb 86

[Text] The Al-Masalih-Qasqas crossing point has reopened following a 3-day closure due to sn[illegible]per fire from armed positions in the western sector. After clashes that continued until this morning, calm returned to the Primo-Al-Barjawi-Sodeco area, extending to the old markets.

Gunfire and explosion, said to be from rocket-launcher shells, are reported along Al-Dawwar-Al-'Ayrun combat line.

Israeli Warplanes Fly Over Capital, Mountain
NC261225 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1220 GMT 26 Feb 86

[Text] At 1345 today, Israeli warplanes broke the sound barrier over the capital and the mountain.

Car-Bomb Explodes in Sidon, Many Wounded
NC261009 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
0945 GMT 26 Feb 86

[Text] According to our latest information from Sidon, rescue teams are still removing the rubble from the northern entrance to the 'Ayn al-Huluwah Camp near the Government Hospital, where a booby-trapped car exploded at approximately 1000 today. The blast left a number of people wounded, seven of whom have been taken to the hospital. Cars and nearby buildings were also badly damaged.

Shots were heard in the city's streets after the explosion and gunmen were seen in a number of neighborhoods.

Saudi Foreign Minister Meets Officials, Departs

LD221931 Kuwait KUNA in English 1824 GMT 22 Feb 86

[Text] Damascus, Feb 22 (KUNA) — Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal left here Saturday at the end of a one-day visit to Syria during which he delivered a message from King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad on developments in the Gulf region and the Iraq-Iran war.

Prince Sa'ud told reporters, following his meeting with President al-Asad, that his talks with the Syrian president were in continuation of the talks held last week which also included Kuwait's acting premier and foreign minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmed. He also said that the talks are complementary to contacts recently held between Syria and Saudi Arabia.

"Those contacts will continue and our hope is that we will be able to develop a joint Arab stance to confront the challenges and circumstances that our Arab nation is passing through," Prince Sa'ud said.

Prince Sa'ud who arrived here yesterday met today with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar'.

Decree Issued for 27 Feb People's Assembly Session

JN241623 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad has issued Decree No 33, dated 24 February 1986, amending the second article in Decree No 31, dated 15 February 1986, and calling on the People's Assembly to convene its first session on 27 February 1986. At the opening session, the People's Assembly members will take the constitutional oath and then elect an Assembly speaker and members of the Assembly's bureau.

TISHRIN on U.S. 'Pressures', Syrian Steadfastness

JN240740 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 24 Feb 86

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Syrian Commitment," the newspaper *TISHRIN*, commenting on the subject of a settlement, says: We won't be revealing a secret if we say that the United States exercised the carrot and stick policy against Syria with the aim of involving it in the U.S. settlement or at least neutralizing it and putting an end to its confrontation of the peaceful, liquidatory onslaught. The Reagan administration used every political, economic, and even military pressure against Syria. The muscle-flexing, the use of force in Lebanon, and encouraging Israel to launch its brutal aggression against Lebanon in 1982 were part of this strong pressure.

On the other hand, this administration tried to bargain with Syrian territory in the Golan so that Syria would stay away from the wager of a U.S. settlement. However, all these pressures failed vis-a-vis Syrian commitment toward the greater pan-Arab cause, the Palestine question. Syria adhered to its stands calling for restoring legitimate rights to their lawful owners and rejecting separate settlements and embarking on direct negotiations with the Arab nation's enemy, Israel. Now, while the Arab region is witnessing further U.S.-Israeli efforts to drag Arab sides into the trap of a U.S. settlement, Syria insists on not allowing anybody to dismember Arab ranks and follow the Egyptian regime.

It would not be an exaggeration to say that the new Israeli invasion of southern Lebanon and the U.S. muscle-flexing in the Mediterranean are part of the pressures on Syria in particular and on the Arab steadfast forces in general so as to pave the way for the advocates of a U.S. settlement and to render efforts to liquidate the Palestine question successful. However, the current pressures will founder on the rock of Syrian steadfastness and will fail to find a new loophole in the Arab body in order to achieve the U.S. and Israeli objectives.

Aquino Government in Philippines Recognized

TA252105 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] Israel has recognized the new government in the Philippines. The Israeli ambassador to Manila reported this to the local Foreign Ministry.

Further Reportage, Commentary on IDF Searches

Kidnapped Soldiers 'Reportedly' in Beirut

TA260602 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 26 Feb 86 p 1

[Report by defense correspondent Hirsh Goodman]

[Text] The two Israeli soldiers captured 10 days ago in south Lebanon have reportedly been taken to Beirut, *THE JERUSALEM POST* has learned. The IDF last week sent thousands of troops into south Lebanon to search for the two, Yosi Fink and Rahamim Alshekh, but called off the operation on Saturday. Until now, the IDF had hoped that the abducted men were still in south Lebanon. But by last night it seemed likely that they had been taken to Beirut.

The two were captured in an ambush while on a patrol with south Lebanese Army troops in the security zone. The Moslem extremist Hizballah organization later said it had killed one of the men. The blood and bullets discovered in the abducted men's vehicles has already caused the IDF great concern for the men's welfare.

S. Lebanese Residents Released

TA260659 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 26 Feb 86

[Text] The IDF has released the first group of the southern Lebanese residents arrested during the searches for the two kidnapped soldiers. This has been learned by our correspondent. UNIFIL sources have reported that altogether, the IDF arrested some 150 residents of the south. The Amal movement has taken control of the area searched over the past few days and its leaders have warned the residents not to harm the UN troops and not to dare bear arms.

Rabin Responds to Motion on Searches

TA251910 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin said at the Knesset this afternoon that in the searches for the soldiers who were kidnapped in southern Lebanon the IDF captured several people who took part in the kidnapping and uncovered some of their collaborators. Responding to a nonconfidence motion submitted by the Progressive List for Peace, Rabin said that the searches uncovered a terrorist organization's arms caches. Minister Rabin emphasized that the course of the operation was guided by only one consideration: to seek every shred of information and do everything to find the soldiers, the kidnappers, or their accomplices, to the extent that this was possible.

On Safety of Lebanese Jews

TA251105 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 25 Feb 86 p 1

[Report by Tali Zelinger]

[Text] Israel considers itself responsible for the safety of Jews everywhere. In reply to a question by the *DAVAR* correspondent about Israel's responsibility for the fate of Jews who have been kidnapped in Beirut, Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin said yesterday that "Israel has a moral commitment toward every persecuted Jew." The minister refrained from saying whether Israel would take military action on this matter.

In reply to a question about the possibility of negotiations with the Hizballah organization over the two kidnapped soldiers, the defense minister answered: "There has not been any appeal and it is not clear whether there is any willingness for negotiations."

To a question about whether Israel would enter into negotiations should there be such an appeal, he said: "I do not deal with hypothetical questions."

Yesterday Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin was the guest of the special institution for the construction industry in the Center of Construction Workers and Builders in Israel meeting in Gan Oranim [Tel Aviv conventions hall]. Among other things, the defense minister said: "As long as I am defense minister we will not get involved in the Lebanese mire above and beyond what is required by the moral responsibility for the fate of every soldier and civilian in the State of Israel." The defense minister expressed support for the idea of economic growth.

Poll Results on Returning to Lebanon

TA241019 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 24 Feb 86 p 2

[Text] Most Israelis currently regard the Lebanon war as a failure and believe that Israel should not go into Lebanon again, according to a nationwide public opinionpoll conducted by the Pori Institute and commissioned by *HA'ARETZ*.

Some 48.4 percent currently regard the Lebanon war as a failure while 16.7 percent consider it a success; another 26.3 percent said the war was "neither a success nor a failure."

A majority of 68.8 percent also believe that despite the katyusha attacks on Qiryat Shemona and other sites in the north, Israel should not go into Lebanon again, while 16.4 percent think that Israel should; another 5.3 percent advocate a partial entry "only to 40 km away from the border" or "to go in and come out immediately."

An analysis of the findings according to voting trends indicates a significant difference on the issue between Alignment and Likud voters. While among Alignment voters 63 percent consider the war a failure and only 8.6 percent regard it as a success, 33.7 percent of the Likud voters regard the war as a success and 28.6

percent see it as a failure. The findings also show that 82.6 percent of the Alignment voters, compared to 54.6 percent of the Likud voters, believe that Israel should not go back into Lebanon.

The poll was conducted on a representative sample of 1,200 women and men who were interviewed individually throughout the country.

Anti-Semitic Campaign

TA241950 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1900 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] Hizballah has been conducting a systematic and unprecedentedly large-scale anti-Semitic campaign in southern Lebanon. This was the conclusion drawn by security elements after an examination of material that was captured in the course of the IDF searches. Our Arab affairs correspondent Ehud Ya'ari says that the campaign includes posters showing the Star of David encircling a swastika. Iranian publications preaching hatred toward Israel also reached the area. One of them is a booklet, entitled *The Battle of Jerusalem*, printed by the Iranian cultural center in Damascus. It includes quotes from the Protocols of the Elders of Zion, and describes Israel as a cancerous growth threatening Islam. In the book itself, its authors call upon all the Muslims to each throw a bucket of water on Israel so that the flow will eliminate it.

Car Bomb Explodes in Refugee Camp

TA260916 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0900 GMT 26 Feb 86

[Text] A car bomb has exploded in the 'Ayn al-Hulwah refugee camp in Sidon, near the state hospital, and there are many casualties. Ambulances have been rushed to the spot. There are no further details at the moment.

Peres on 'Increased' Syrian Threat on Golan Heights

TA251835 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1705 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres said this evening in Majdal Shams on the Golan Heights that Israel will not permit the peace on the Golan Heights to be disturbed, and that it will take steps against those who disturb it. Mr Peres made these remarks at the conclusion of a tour of the settlements in the region, and at the end he was received in Majdal Shams by an enormous demonstration by pro-Syrian Druze supporters. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer accompanied the prime minister on his tour of the Golan Heights.

[Begin recording] [Schiffer] The last leg of Mr Peres' full tour of the Golan Heights was uncertain. Here in Majdal Shams we were received by a demonstration of several hundred youths shouting: We will bring about the redemption of the Golan with our souls and our blood. This is how the prime minister was received in Majdal Shams. During the tour of Qatzrin, the prime minister's entourage considered canceling his visit, but still came. Some of the demonstrators are throwing stones and other objects from the nearby rooftops. The youths are waving hands. Reinforced police and security forces, and soldiers are guarding the entrances to the building where the prime minister is holding meetings with the local notables.

[Peres] In my opinion, no declarations on the status of the Golan Heights are necessary. There is an abundance of declarations and decisions of many kinds.

[Schiffer] But, Mr Peres, the fact that you are not prepared here on the Golan Heights to come out and say that this territory is not negotiable with the Syrians....

[Peres, interrupting] Tell me, who do I have to declare anything to? If you mean declaring to the residents of the Golan Heights, they know there is a Knesset law that is binding on the Government and me. There is no need for me to repeat this law. Toward outside elements, I think that preeminence should be given to the facts of who is to blame and who is on the defensive. We are on the Golan Heights because we were attacked. We are on the Golan Heights because of Syrian agression, which appears to have no limit. Why, then, should I say that we do not want to hold negotiations? Negotiations are not needed on the matter of the Golan Heights. We must say that the Golan Heights must be strengthened, because the danger from the Syrian side, not only has not decreased, but has in fact increased.

Further Details

TA251845 Jerusalem Television Service in Arabic
1730 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Interview with Prime Minister Shim'on Peres by unidentified correspondent during a tour of the Golan Heights on 25 February, in Hebrew — videotaped]

[Text] [Peres] The Golan Heights are presently part of Israel. We will deal with it according to the Israeli law. Those who break the law will be required to face trial about it, and the police will guarantee security. At the same time I believe an effort should be made to develop the Druze villages, too, in the areas of education, health, and agriculture. We will definitely help them, just as we have been doing in the other parts of the country.

[Correspondent] Has the government changed its position toward the inhabitants of the territories in view of King Husayn's speech? And will the government encourage the establishment of local leadership there?
[Peres] I do not think that the Government of Israel can set up a leadership; leadership is not established and certainly no government appoints leadership. I hope that a local leadership will grow, but not by us or on behalf of us. The inhabitants of the territories are the ones who must now think about the future. If they continue in this way, I believe they are jeopardizing their future, because they are not deciding and are not making up their minds.

[Correspondent] Sir, if some of the Likud ministers continue to present opposition to the economic growth program, do you fear or anticipate a threat to the national unity government?

[Peres] I am convinced that the issue of growth is vital for the economy, is part of the economic program, and should not be put off either by constraints of time or content. Sometimes, it takes massive intervention in the regular economic processes, which is what I will do. It is what we will do. I would not like to make threats.

Injuries, Arrests Reported

TA260635 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 26 Feb 86

[Text] Following the stormy demonstration in the village of Majdal Shams during the prime minister's visit, the police arrested 18 of the villagers, including 4 minors, during the night. Our correspondent Yo'el Dar was told that further arrests are expected. It now turns out that Assistant Commander Ya'aqov Ganot, the commander of the local police force, two policemen, and several of the Majdal Shams residents who wanted to attend the reception for Mr Peres, were injured during the demonstration.

Peres States Husayn's Speech 'Not Last Word'

TA261128 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 26 Feb 86

[Text]Speaking in the Knesset a few minutes ago, Prime Minister Peres said King Husayn's latest position on peace talks should not be seen as the last word on the subject. He was answering four agenda motions on the Husayn speech last week in which he broke off contact with the PLO.

[Begin correspondent Steve Weizman recording] In welcoming Husayn's speech Peres came under attack from both sides of the House. The right say the Jordanian king's statement is a smokescreen as his relationship with the PLO remains unchanged. The far left say Husayn's speech is excluding the PLO and thus excluding the Palestinian people who according to Citizens Rights Movement Knesset Member Ran Kohen represent over 60 percent of the Palestinians.

Peres disputed that figure and said that even if it were true, it would change nothing. So, I'll speak to the other 40 percent, he said. The prime minister added that Husayn's speech is an important step which shows that the Jordanian monarch now appreciates that it is the PLO who stands in the way of peace. The Palestinian problem, said Peres, cannot be solved by terror or by war but only in negotiations. [end recording]

Peres Interviewed on Economic Growth

TA250747 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT (Leshabat Supplement) in Hebrew 21 Feb 86 pp 1, 2

[Interview with Prime Minister Shim'on Peres by Yesh'ayahu Ben-Porat — date and-place not given]

[Text] [Ben-Porat] Mr Prime Minister, everybody is speaking of economic growth. Some, with you as leader, are for and others are against. What exactly do you have in mind?

[Peres] In order to clear up any misunderstandings, let me say for a start: The budget must not be increased, nor must money be printed and inflation reintroduced. It has been cut down and will remain so. Now, look at what happened to the economy under the Likud: some extremely damaging things, such as sky-high inflation and foreign loans now obliging us to cough up $3 billion in interest! Worst of all, for the past 8 to 9 years our economy has been at a standstill, dried up, become a plant that does not grow. These are the two things we now have to cope with: the foreign debt and the economic standstill.

[Ben-Porat] How can we promote growth without increasing the budget and printing money?
[Peres] The governor of the Bank of Israel says, and I accept his opinion, that a situation has been created in which it is possible to divert some of the financial resources previously eaten up by the government to productive investments in the economy. The governor speaks of government bonds worth $350 to 500 million. This must be food for growth. It is not new money; it is taking a new course.

[Ben-Porat] What did you have in mind when earlier in the week you spoke of diverting 10 percent of revenue to growth?
[Peres] That is not what I said; a misunderstanding has arisen. Public savings currently total $4 billion. In the past, the bulk, in fact almost all of it, was consumed by the government. Now that such consumption has been halted under the economic program, part of this sum should be diverted to growth.

[Ben-Porat] You mean to say there is no intention of taking anything else away from the public?
[Peres] There's not the slightest intention of taking money away from the public. Our purpose is to issue bonds amounting to $350 million in the first instance, and possibly raising the sum to $500 million in the next stage. These bonds are destined for investment; they are voluntary, will not be imposed by law, and no one will be compelled to purchase them. The public will be informed that, instead of investing in the state budget, they will be investing in constructive branches. Furthermore, we are in luck with the big drop in fuel prices. This year we spent $1.25 billion on fuel. A surplus of $120 million has already accumulated in the Ministry of Energy. If oil prices continue to drop, savings may reach the $300 million figure. Part of this money will be returned to the public by means of cheaper fuel prices, and part will be invested in growth channels. It is these two things I have in mind when I say there is no need to print money to switch to the promotion of growth.

[Ben-Porat] And what of the loans and the gigantic sums that go to pay interest?
[Peres] I have certain thoughts, but would rather not speak of them as yet.

[Ben-Porat] Anything to do with your forthcoming trip to the United States? Do you intend to ask for remission of part of the interest, provided we invest it in growth?
[Peres] I have some thoughts on the subject. The problem needs to be dealt with. We are paying a daily interest of $8 to 9 million!

[Ben-Porat] You haven't answered the question if this is one of the topics you will be raising in Washington?

[Peres] I will not say anything on this matter. On the other hand, I'm ready to answer the crucial question: How does the government manage the economy?

[Ben-Porat] To which I add: Who does the managing, the prime minister or the minister of finance, and how is authority divided between them?
[Peres] It's not a matter of divided authority. Forget it. Without an economic coalition, along with the political coalition, there is no way to manage the economy. The economic coalition is an authentic partnership between the government, the Histadrut, and the industrialists. We have been working on it day and night. Without it there would be no economic program. The finance minister thought it could be done by back-to-work orders. I do not believe this can be done. You cannot issue orders to workers. The Argentinians did just that and they are in a grave crisis. We did no such thing and consequently succeeded. Anybody can dream up a program. The problem is how to build up an economy, confidence, and goodwill in order to improve the situation.

[Ben-Porat] Give me a concrete example.
[Peres] With pleasure. What brought inflation down? Not resorting to back-to-work orders, but agreeing on a wage-freeze. Is that the business of the Finance Ministry? And even if the prime minister and the finance minister reach an agreement between themselves, who in a free economy and in a democratic country is impelled to abide by it?

[Ben-Porat] So you are telling me it was done by flouting the finance minister, who wanted back-to-work orders?
[Peres] You are looking for sensations. I am telling you what my stand was and it has proved to be correct. The government approved my stand. Nor must we for a moment overlook the splendid work done by the Defense Ministry in cutting the defense budget. Furthermore, we reduced subisidies on consumer goods, and this too was achieved through agreement. The big thing is national consensus. Anyone who thinks he can force people to do things is making a grave mistake.

[Ben-Porat] The timing of the switch to growth has surprised a lot of people. Why just now?
[Peres] I have explained this to you. In the first place, money has been made available. Secondly, there has been a drop in the price of fuel. And there is a third reason. We must prevent the collapse of enterprises that can be revived; they must be helped. Do you remember the spectacle of the aged being dragged from hospital to hospital? Why? What need was there for it? In the end we disbursed all the necessary funds. What purpose did these humiliations serve? We should learn a lesson from this. The Ata affair, too, could have been brought to a positive conclusion. It was a matter of $1-2 million on the part of the government, and had we put up the funds we would have brought in big industrialists.

[Ben-Porat] Who stopped it?
[Peres] I do not want to give grades. I am only engaging in moral stocktaking. And there is the problem of the unemployed. We cannot afford to have hungry unemployed in Israel; unemployment also costs public money.

[Ben-Porat] This is the place to ask what will happen to the shipyards.

[Peres] Israel today does not need large shipyards. But here is a shipyard with 300 to 400 workers, if only for maintenance needs. There are other enterprises on the verge of breakdown; therefore, the situation is acute. Take agriculture, for example. On the one hand you have a success story and on the other, a hardship story. We have enterprises like Nahal 'Oz scoring a world record in cotton production. But if a pound of cotton priced at 70 cents enjoys a U.S. Government subsidy of 30 cents, we have the choice: We either take advantage of the U.S. subsidy and stop cultivating the soil, or we cultivate the soil and compete not only with world agriculture but also with state-subsidized agriculture. This year we are cultivating no less than 650,000 dunams of cotton. All this could end in bankruptcy. Then what? Do we give up agriculture and play the stock market?

[Ben-Porat] Your answer is to subsidize agriculture?
[Peres] The need is to help agriculture get through a difficult year and not let it go broke. Agriculture is haunted by debts and interest aggravates the situation. How can an agricultural enterprise afford to pay interest at an annual rate of 60 to 70 percent? I for one will not sit in a government allowing enterprises, development towns, or industry to go broke.

[Ben-Porat] So it is a case of aid to all, without distinction.
[Peres] Aid must definitely be selective according to national and productive priorities. Each enterprise has its own history and its own difficult moments. Take for example the Dead Sea plants whose annual output is up to $300 million. They were twice on the point of collapse before attaining their current stability. Should we have closed down the Dead Sea plants when they were in trouble, or persisted in overcoming the crisis? The economy cannot be managed just by being mean. There has to be understanding, a guiding principle.

[Ben-Porat] Meaning the era of being nasty is over, and the time has now come to be kind?
[Peres] Not being kind. We have to go on living by our labors and not by our inflation. Neither by the stock market nor by being kind. Resources have to be allocated so as not to forfeit the future. And the Finance Ministry must realize that it cannot be a dictatorial ministry. We will get nowhere without national partnership. No back-to-work orders and no issuers of such orders.

[Ben-Porat] What is the next concrete step?
[Peres] Out of the current surpluses a growth fund must be set up. This has to be done before we seek foreign aid. And priorities have to be established with due consideration for our partners. For example, the Histadrut insists on keeping unemployment down. Therefore, steps must be taken to reduce unemployment. Right now unemployment is rampant. If we allow enterprises to go under, then unemployment and the dole expenditure will increase. Look at what is happening in Mrs Thatcher's England. They discovered oil, but all the revenue from oil goes to unemployment payments. Why inject money from savings into unemployment? We must get it to flow into production and work places.

[Ben-Porat] The economists are shouting against channeling funds.

[Peres] I do not get worked up over shouting. I remember what some of them, including, incidentally, Cabinet ministers, said about the economic program.

[Ben-Porat] Have you already decided on a scale of priorities in respect to the growth fund?
[Peres] Yes: to reduce unemployment and not let it run rampant; to help the development towns recover by introducing constructive enterprises; to save agriculture; and to help enterprises which can be saved get through this difficult period.

[Ben-Porat] Do you intend to get Cabinet approval for your program?
[Peres] Certainly, what do you think? Did you hear me say: me, me, me?

[Ben-Porat] The finance minister is not the only one ruling out the growth fund. Professor Bruno has also publicly voiced reservations.
[Peres] I spoke to him on the phone. He thought I meant to increase the budget. I explained to him that we will neither increase the budget nor print money. Now it is clear to him.

[Ben-Porat] You are not only a prime minister but also a politician, which is nothing to be ashamed of. Is not your timing also inspired by transparent political considerations? Some of your colleagues are looking for a pretext to bring down the government and there has been talk to the effect in "Sarenu." ["our ministers" -- Labor ministerial forum]
[Peres] "Sarenu" meets and will go on meeting, just as the Likud ministers meet. We had a debate on the growth plan. There were those who tried to exploit it for purposes other than growth. Nobody has heard anything of the sort from me, whether in private conversations or elsewhere. Another thing: I regret the party the Likud threw for the finance minister. Was it the Likud that authored the economic program? I am downright disgusted with these ridiculous, frivolous ploys. I remain in favor of a broad partnership to rehabilitate the economy.

[Ben-Porat] A media report has it that after rotation, if it comes about, you will ask for the Ministry of Growth portfolio.
[Peres] I seek no additional portfolios. But in the period when cuts were the order of the day, the finance minister asked me to head the cuts program. Now, when growth is wanted, I also regard it as my duty to head growth. I am speaking of a process, not of a portfolio. Growth requires a bi-party effort.

[Ben-Porat] This week you tried to get the Cabinet to decide in favor of growth, and you did not succeed. There was a quarrel and nothing was decided.
[Peres] I did not try to do this and so I could not have failed. The quarrel was over something else, when the minister of energy complained that the finance minister had cut his budget. The finance minister denied this. The program has not yet been submitted, but I shall demand a meeting between the two parties.

[Ben-Porat] The Inner Cabinet or a meeting between yourself and Shamir?
[Peres] A meeting between representatives of both parties. The meeting will be held on Friday (today) and all the problems will be discussed.

[Ben-Porat] That is to say, you stand firm by your opinion and your intentions, despite the finance minister's opposition?
[Peres] No question about it. The government decides by a majority vote, and will do so on this issue, too.

[Ben-Porat] That is to say there will be growth, with or without Moda'i?
[Peres] With or without opponents.

[Ben-Porat] The press is full of interpretations of the political significance of the crisis.
[Peres] Am I to blame for that? Someone has put the press up to this. And I do not get worked up over the fact that at the moment there are not many people who support my program. Support will come in time.

[Ben-Porat] This week you said you would no longer permit such bad behavior at Cabinet sessions.
[Peres] That is something else I shall discuss with the Likud. A prime minister not only can but must put his house in order. I shall take what I deem to be steps necessary to prevent a repetition of such happenings. And do not ask me what I am going to do. I am not in the habit of making threats.

[Ben-Porat] What about the rotation agreement? The impression is that you are going to honor it.
[Peres] The rotation agreement is a clause among other clauses. They all have to be honored, including rotation. Whoever thinks the government will stand or fall only on the matter of rotation is mistaken. There are other, no less important issues, for example, presenting Israel as a peace-loving country. A government is not a collection of office-holders. As I see it, a government is a group of ministers who must implement the policy it has agreed on. This includes rehabilitation of the economy and promoting its growth. As for rotation, I put my signature to it and nobody has ever found me reneging on my signature. I will insist on rotation, unless others break the agreements.

[Ben-Porat] You do not feel that national unity is finished?
[Peres] I am an incurably optimistic Jew. Crises and retreats do not impress me. If there is a problem, it must be overcome, not submitted to. I am very proud of what we have achieved so far. My ambition is to eliminate war from the region, bring peace closer, and turn Israel into a flourishing economy.

[Ben-Porat] And finally: You have not yet despaired of Husayn and the Palestinians?
[Peres] What good will despair do? Where will it get us? To revert to threats? Here, too, patience and persistence are needed, for what is the alternative?

[Ben-Porat] But do you not hurt yourself in arousing expectations which come to nothing?
[Peres] I am happy to arouse expectations, and I am not sure nothing will come of them. Would I feel any better if I fostered great despair? The alternative is to say that nothing can be done. I have taken action, not bred expectations.

Should I say I am sorry we are out of Lebanon, that we have one less war on our hands, or that we are negotiating with Egypt? I do not work to create impressions. What have we lost by the fact

that after a year and a half we have a better international standing than we have ever had before? What have we lost?

Fate of E. Jerusalem Electric Co Discussed

TA241905 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] A high-level meeting at the Prime Minister's Office on the future of the East Jerusalem Electric Corporation has ended. The meeting was chaired by Prime Minister Peres. The participants apparently decided to take legal measures to force the East Jerusalem company to pay its more than $7 million in debts. Harley Braidman reports.

[Begin recording] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin, Police Minister Hayim Bar-Lev, Vice Prime Minister Yitzaq Shamir, Energy Minister Moshe Shahal, Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek, and high-level military administration officials also attended the session besides Peres.

After the meeting Shahal told the Voice of Israel that the government will inform the East Jerusalem Corporation about the gravity of the situation because it was out of the question that its $7 million debt to the Israel Electric Corporation grow each month. It could lead to the Israeli company being placed into receivership. The East Jerusalem Corporation will have to tell the government how it intended to meet its debts, Shahal said. It is not intended to interfere regarding its status, but let the Electric Corporation act as a creditor to realize its debt. Any energy minister ought to insure the customers receive their electricity.

Tonight's high-level meeting indicates the gravity of the East Jerusalem Corporation's problem. It is the largest Arab corporation in the territories with over 500 employees and the symbol of the Arab character of East Jerusalem in the inhabitants' eyes. Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek believes some action should be taken to insure regular electricity for the consumers as the present condition could not continue.

The efforts of the Arab company, headed by former Jordanian Defense Minister Anwar Nusaybah, to raise money in Jordan have failed. The company could be expropriated before its concession runs out or legal proceedings started, but the employees have threatened to protect their concern physically and could take charge of its installations in desperation and cause political discrepancies in East Jerusalem. [end recording]

Shamir Speaks on PLO, Husayn Speech, Peace Process

TA251850 Jerusalem Television Service in Arabic
1730 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Address by Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, to the World Assembly of Jewish War Veterans in Jerusalem on 25 February, in Hebrew - videotaped]

[Text] The agreement between Jordan and the PLO, that terrorist organization, of February 1985 obliges Jordan not to enter into any negotiations or reach any agreement with Israel without the PLO's consent or participation. It is as if someone manacled himself and told himself: Even if I want peace, I will not be able to remove the handcuffs the PLO has put round my wrists, because the PLO — as is well known — opposes peace. Its very existence contradicts peace, negates peace.

Although in his latest speech King Husayn expressed his disappointment with the PLO, he nevertheless added that he is not terminating cooperation with it and nor invalidating the accord with it. Rather, he continues to adhere to it.

As long as this accord remains in effect, how can he progress toward peace? And as if this were not enough, the second condition is not to have direct negotiations. Jordan is still not prepared for this. It is only prepared to have an international conference, in the framework of which talks may be held. But this must be a conference with the participation of all sorts of international elements. In contrast to what so many people in Israel think, this conference should not only be a conference in name, only a complementary forum; rather, it must be a real conference with the powers to make decisions, with the necessary authority. In Jordan, in the United States, and in the Soviet Union, they know that Israel will never allow foreign countries of the world, friendly as they may be — and most of them do not fall within this category — to decide on our future. Direct negotiations mean that the only thing that will happen is what will be agreed upon between the partners to the negotiations.

Further Report

TA251108 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1000 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has said that almost all the normalization agreements between Israel and Egypt have not been implemented. There are numerous worrisome problems between the two countries, such as anti-Israeli and anti-Jewish hostile propaganda in the Egyptian media and close relations between Egypt and the terrorist organizations, particularly the PLO. Our correspondent Avraham Ben-Melekh reports that Minister Shamir was addressing the World Assembly of Jewish War Veterans in Jerusalem.

King Husayn, Shamir added, has not stopped cooperating with the PLO and continues to adhere to the position that he would negotiate with Israel only in the framework of an international conference with the participation of the PLO. Yitzhaq Shamir pointed out that Israel is doing its best to promote peace in the Middle East but the Arab countries are not taking part in the process.

News Analysis Examines King Husayn's Address

TA251435 Jerusalem AL-FAJR in English
21 Feb 86 pp 1, 13

["News Analysis" by Hanna Sanyurah]

[Text] The foremost conclusion to be drawn from King Husayn's detailed speech over the airwaves of Jordan TV February 19 is that the present joint peace initiative is dead.

The special US envoy in the region will soon pack his belongings and return home. With the suspension of political cooperation between 'Arafat and Husayn, the Palestinian-Israeli conflict has again been put on hold.

Perhaps to his credit, King Husayn frankly identified the primary obstacle to the joint initiative as disagreement between Jordan and the PLO over acceptance of UN Resolutions 242 and 338. Jordan as a state has accepted these two resolutions. But the PLO as a liberation movement fighting for the realization of the Palestinian people's national rights -- foremost among them being the right to self-determination -- cannot unconditionally accept 242 and 338. The all-important right to self-determination must first be guaranteed.

What the king failed to mention in his three-and-a-half hour speech was that 'Arafat has in fact accepted the two resolutions on several occasions, but only in the context of all relevant UN resolutions. To recognize outright the two resolutions is to accept the Palestinian people's struggle as nothing more than a problem of refugees with no rights to a homeland and no basic right to self-rule. That amounts to de facto legalization of the Israeli occupation. If 'Arafat had done so, he would have lost not only popular support, but possibly his post as leader of the revolution.

For 'Arafat and the PLO leadership, UN Resolution 242 is a red line. He cannot cross it without a clear mandate from the Palestine National Council. Neither the last meeting of the Executive Committee of the PLO held in Baghdad nor the 17th PNC gave him such a mandate.

King Husayn's argument for Chariman 'Arafat to accept Resolution 242 at this time is built on shaky ground. He stated his belief that once the PLO accepted 242, then an international conference would be held and Israel would subsequently withdraw from occupied Arab lands. But, Israel has not yet agreed to attend an international conference and it is most doubtful that the United States could pressure Israel into doing so. In addition, the USSR and Syria have refused to attend the conference unless it has clearly defined objectives. Husayn admitted in his speech that negotiations on the goals of the conference and its mandate were just beginning. There was already fundamental difference between U.S. and Jordanian positions as to the conference mandate. So how could Husayn expect 'Arafat to deliver his "last card" based on such uncertain promises and possibly false hopes? Even if there were a conference and Israel attended, there are no guarantees that it would agree to the concepts of self-determination and thus statehood. Sources in Israel predict a big split in the country if that were to happen and Prime Minister Shim'on Peres is not willing to risk that.

Though Husayn persisted in placing blame for the collapse of the peace initiative on 'Arafat and the PLO, the truth is that Husayn himself actually broke agreements made between the two parties. The two had earlier agreed to hold a meeting between the joint delegation and the United States. At that meeting, the PLO would recognize 242. But Husayn reneged on that agreement by pushing the PLO to recognize 242 first before taking a seat at the conference. (For its part, the United States refused from the beginning to meet with the joint delegation.)

Instead, 'Arafat and the PLO have repeatedly said that they would accept 242 at the conference in return for U.S. recognition of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination. Husayn, however, said in his speech that he told the PLO the issue of self-determination was an internal matter to be discussed later between Jordan and the PLO and did not involve the United States or possibly even Israel for that matter.

At this point, the major point of difference between the two signatories to the February 11 Amman agreement became clear. King Husayn believes the liberation of the land should come first and then the issue of national rights put on the agenda. The PLO and the Palestinian people believe the liberation of land and the recognition of the national rights of those people who will occupy the land should go hand in hand.

The king wants to differentiate between the withdrawal of Israeli troops from the occupied territories and the recognition of the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, a point to which Husayn says he is also committed. Instead of placing the blame on 'Arafat for his refusal to recognize 242, it should be placed on America for her refusal to recognize the Palestinian right to self-determination.

With the demise of the current peace initiative one is forced to ask the awkward question: Was the agreement actually a cover, on King Husayn's part, for a previous plan of his to return the occupied territories to his control? All along, his priority has been the return of Arab land, not Palestinian rights. Some on the West Bank believe he has used the period of the agreement to his advantage by bolstering his position in the occupied territories. He increased steps to control the West Bank and Gaza by reconvening his parliament and by supporting the appointment of Arabs to run local municipalities.

Whatever Husayn's aim in signing the Amman agreement, it was clear Wednesday night that he was obviously addressing his statements to the people of the occupied territories. His aim, it seems, is to place a wedge between the the Palestinian people and the PLO. It seems he wants to encourage loyalists of his on the West Bank to increase their efforts in attempting to wean the people of the occupied territories away from their leadership. But in this King Husayn is the loser. The Palestinians have not forgotten the years of Jordanian rule or the civil war in 1970. They have also not forgotten the fact that the PLO is merely the embodiment of a historical national movement begun at the beginning of this century. Husyan knows this, but he is still trying to force a split between the people and the PLO along the lines of U.S. and Israeli positions. He is also echoing U.S. and Israeli positions of talking only to people in the occupied territories and ignoring the millions of Palestinians in the diaspora.

Ironically, by putting the blame for the failure of the agreement on Chairman 'Arafat they have bolstered his standing among the several factions of the PLO. Those, who at times were questioning 'Arafat's nationalism because of his decision to coordinate efforts with the Hashemite kingdom, are now forced to recognize that 'Arafat maintained his nationalism and stuck to the principles of the revolution in his refusal to accept unconditionally UN Resolution 242.

On the Israeli scene, Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin jumped at the chance to point out to residents of the occupied territories that this was their golden opportunity. On Israel Radio, he declared that the local Palestinian leadership should negotiate directly with Israel on the basis of the U.S. understanding with King Husayn. But this too will backfire on him, as it will on Husayn. The local population will rush to rally behind the PLO with more unity and momentum than before.

The timing of Husayn's speech is perhaps most telling. It shows that he is trying to pressure the PLO, perhaps in coordination with the U.S. Admninistration, to get something done while Peres is still in office before the rotation agreement takes effect. His timing is also proof of the Jordanian monarch's impatience. He presented the wavering and confusing U.S. and Israeli positions but looked to the PLO for clarification of their simple demands. Husayn was willing to spend a year in detailed conversations with the American Administration over a tiny point, but gave up on the PLO after only two weeks of discussion.

In emphasizing the differences between the two signatories to the Amman agreement, Husayn failed to point out their similarities. The Jordanian and Palestinian peoples both agree on two things: 1) Both peoples face the same Israeli expansionism and both oppose Israeli proposals for a peace settlement; and 2) both adopt the Fes resolution and the Arab peace plan, adopted by the 16th and 17th sessions of the Palestine National Council.

At the end of his speech King Husayn hinted there are still two options left open to him. The first — to hold direct talks with Israel in the form of a Camp David — he says he rejects. The second — to have locals talk directly to Israel and in effect bypass the PLO — has been in the works for several months.

There has been a revival of the so-called Jordanian lobby formed by several locals to carry Husayn's ideas to the populationand a revival of Peres' autonomy plans. Does this mean that Husayn is considering such action? Whether he is or not, what is sure is that a united Palestinian people with their legitimate leadership — the PLO — will maintain their principled stand in search of their national rights, formost being the right to self-determination.

Rabin Meets High-Ranking W. Bank Notables

TA251952 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin today told a group of Arab notables from the territories that Israel is willing to give Arab employees in the Civilian Administration more authority, and to gradually reduce the number of Israeli officials in the administration. However, Rabin stressed, there would be no basic change in the current administrative system in the territories.

Our correspondent Gil Sadan reports that for the first time in a long while the defense minister met with high-ranking persons in the territories, and discussed the situation in Judaea and Samaria with them. The meeting was held in the office of the head of the Civilian Administration. Shmu'el Goren, the coordinator of activities in the territories, and senior officers also participated. Our correspondent notes that representatives of various sectors in the Arab population, except for those associated with terrorist organizations, were invited to attend the meeting.

PLO Supporters Hold Demonstrations in West Bank

TA260644 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 26 Feb 86

[Text] Over the past few days PLO supporters in the territories have been making great efforts to organize demonstrations of support for Yasir 'Arafat. Our correspondent in Judaea and Samaria Arye Gus reports that this week there were rallies at Bethlehem University and in Nabulus' Al-Najah University. PLO supporters are also publicizing declarations of support for 'Arafat and calling on King Husayn not to sever ties with him. Members of the Bethlehem Municipality have also issued an announcement on this, without the signature of the mayor.

Rabin States Jordan Increasing Border Guards

TA251003 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 25 Feb 86 p 3

[Text] Following the killing of two IDF soldiers by a Jordanian deserter on the outskirts of Mehola a few weeks ago, the Amman authorities have stepped up the guard on the border with Israel. This was stated yesterday by Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin, in reply to a question in the Knesset by Knesset member Shevah Weiss (Alignment).

Among other things, a new order has been issued to the Jordanian Army stating that every soldier absent from his shift is to be reported to the authorities. The Israeli Government made Jordan aware of the gravity of the murder. It was explained to the Jordanian representatives that such actions similar types are in tolerable from our point of view. If there are incidents, Israel will have to draw conclusions.

Agreement Reached With Egypt on New Tourism Line

TA250945 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 25 Feb 86 p 8

[Report by Nurit Kahana]

[Text] At the end of last week Mahmud Sabri, the director general of Transocean Tours, the large Egyptian tourism company, agreed to open a tourism line between 'Akko and Ismailia. The agreement was made with 'Akko Mayor Eli de Castro, after Sabri had announced that he would submit a plan for visits by several thousand tourists each year. The reference at the first stage is to a line of 10 luxury coaches that belong to the Transocean company and will drive between Ismailia and 'Akko. There is also talk of a shipping line at a later stage.

Egypt Returns Body of IDF Soldier

TA241939 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] The body of Corporal Ya'aqov Ro'ina of Kibbutz Elon who was killed in Egypt 18 years ago has been returned to Israel. An

IDF delegation which left to locate missing soldiers in Egypt was the one which brought his body back.

Autopsy Shows Turkish Captain Died by Israeli Fire

TA231227 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 23 Feb 86 p 2

[Report by Refa'el Mann]

[Text] The captain of the Turkish ship which was detained off the Gaza coast approximately 10 days ago was killed by a bullet fired from an Israeli Navy ship. This emerges from the findings of the autopsy carried out on the body last week.

Knowledgeable sources reported that the results of a previous examination had given way to the belief that the captain was killed by the crew members on the Turkish ship. Official spokesmen refused to give details on the findings of the investigation.

Sources in Jerusalem believe that the Turkish Government might demand compensation from Israel for the death of the captain. Ankara already submitted a formal protest of the shooting and killing of the captain while the ship was still being detained.

Police Report Shows Rise in W. Bank Terrorism

TA260751 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 26 Feb 86 p 2

[Report by Joshua Brilliant]

[Text] Nabulus — Terrorist acts in the West Bank involving guns, explosives or fire bombs averaged more than three a day last year. Less serious incidents, considered "violations of public order," averaged more than six a day last year.

Police statistics presented at the Samaria police station yesterday showed that 1,224 "security violations" had been logged in 1985 — some 18 per cent more than during the previous year. In Samaria there were 818 offences, Superintendent Re'uven Dovev, the head of the region's investigation bureau, told the officers. There were 406 incidents in Judaea, Superintendent 'Amiram Fahima, the head of that region's investigations bureau, said at an earlier meeting at Har Gilo.

Security sources told *THE JERUSALEM POST* that the attackers had been more sophisticated and audacious than in previous years. Two recent bombs in Samaria on main highways and a recent daytime attack on two Border Policemen in Nabulus were considered particularly disturbing.

The picture regarding stonings and similar offences defined as "violations of public order" was less clear. There were 1,840 such violations (an 11 per cent increase) in Samaria, but in Judaea the 309 offences were about half those in 1984.

An estimated 21,000 Israelis travel on Samaria's roads every day. On weekends, thousands of Israelis shop in Qalqilyah and Tulkarm, where prices are generally lower than in Israel proper. Thus there are more attacks there than east of Nabulus, for example, where population is sparse.

The Samaria police solved 72 per cent of the security offences in 1985, compared with 62 per cent in 1984. Ninety per cent of the instances of "violation of public order" resulted in arrests. Serious crimes, such as robbery, increased in 1985. Sometimes these were committed by gangs of Jews and Arabs.

Hebron Leader Submits Name As Mayoral Candidate

TA250937 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 25 Feb 86 p 1

[Text] Rashad al-Ja'bari, head of Hebron's chamber of commerce and son of the late mayor Shaykh Muhammad 'Ali al-Ja'bari, has submitted his candidacy for mayor to the Civil Administration. Two other men are soon to present their candidacies, *THE JERUSALEM POST* has learned.

The present rift between the PLO and Jordan will heat up the contest. Al-Ja'bari is known for his pro-Jordanian position, and PLO supporters in Hebron are likely to try to block his appointment.

Hebron is the last of the four West Bank towns mentioned by Prime Minister Shim'on Peres — after Al-Birah, Nabulus, and Ramallah — to be selected for attempts to have a resident elected as mayor to replace Israeli appointees.

AL-FAJR Editorial on Palestinian-Jordanian Relations

TA251820 Jerusalem AL-FAJR in Arabic 23 Feb 86 pp 1, 5

[Editorial: "Unity Around the PLO and the Need for Renewal of Dialogue"]

[Text] The decisive and clear response issued by organizations and the masses in the occupied territories to King Husayn's speech was characterized by two outstanding points: first, total unity around the PLO under Yasir 'Arafat's leadership as the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian people "within" and "abroad"; and second, the need for renewal of dialogue between Jordan and the PLO, demonstrated by the definite unity achieved currently between the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples and on the basis of national interests that require joint political action regardless of the consequences and obstacles.

Any sort of "entanglement in muddy waters" outside these two points will directly benefit those forces — which unfortunately are many — who stood and continue to stand against these national interests on the one hand, and against a political solution guaranteeing our national legitimate rights, including the right to self-determination, on the other.

The official Palestinian response to the speech, which as Yasir 'Arafat pointed out "will be delayed for a while because of the Gulf War," will perhaps affirm the deep Palestinian conviction of viewing the matter from all its national aspects so that those caught in muddy waters will not have any opportunities, and so

that Palestinian policy will remain lofty when meeting with the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement, as well as in confronting all eventualities.

If the United States and Israel immediately declared their complete satisfaction with the speech, which is an anticipated and natural declaration, then the logic of our national interest naturally affirms the opposite of this declaration as far as we are concerned. Therefore, we greatly regret the cessation of dialogue and, in contrast, immensely desire its continuation.

'AL HAMISHMAR on Consequences of Husayn Speech

TA241306 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew
24 Feb 86 p 7

[Commentary by Pinhas 'Inbari: "Divorcing the Political Process"]

[Text] King Husayn's speech may be regarded as a success for Israel's policy. Prime Minister Shim'on Peres tried to reach an agreement with the king: Peres would make the notion of an international conference acceptable in Israel, while Husayn would shake himself free of the PLO. Indeed, that is what happened. Peres and Husayn stood by their mutual commitment but instead of moving ahead in the political process, which was the ultimate purpose of the deal, it seems that the process has taken quite a few steps backward and a political breakthrough cannot be seen in the offing at present.

Those who just wanted to gain time while pretending that a political process was under way may be pleased with the king's speech, but those who really understand the terrible threats posed to Israel by the perpetration of the current situation — and it seems that the Labor Party is not one of them — can only be filled with apprehension.

The Hashemite dynasty might be faced with a very dangerous process, that of the Palestinization of both banks of the Jordan River. This does not mean that Husayn does not want to reach an agreement — quite the contrary. However, according to his concepts, both banks of the Jordan River must remain separated: the East Bank must remain Jordanian while the West Bank satisfies the national aspirations of the Palestinians. Hence, the agreement with 'Arafat was a strategic one. Both leaders divided both parts of the former monarchy between them; 'Arafat made do with the West Bank and Gaza, giving up his claims to not just parts of the bigger homeland to the west — that is Yafo, Haifa, and 'Akko — but also to the **east**, finally giving Palestinian legitimization to the Hashemite dynasty.

There is no doubt that 'Arafat made some critical mistakes and Husayn pointed them out one by one: the evil and silly murder in Larnaca followed by the hijacking of the *Achille Lauro* which implicated not only 'Arafat but also his friend, Husni Mubarak. He may have had difficulties controlling his people who are scattered throughout the Arab world, but that does not detract from his responsibility. However, according to the king's own description of the failure of the negotiations in Amman, it seems there was no justification for halting the talks in such a dramatic way. The PLO made a great deal of progress toward finding a solution which would have enabled the opening of negotiations and, according to a report in the pro-'Arafat East Jerusalem weekly *AL-'AWDAH* of 16 February, 'Arafat proposed a formula in which the PLO expressed its willingness to negotiate with all the parties to the conflict, including Israel, under the auspices of the United Nations.

According to the king's speech, the main bone of contention had been the way in which Resolution 242 would be recognized. The PLO linked it to other UN resolutions because it also demanded recognition of the national rights of the Palestinian people, while Jordan argued that the two issues should be separated: The return of the land, according to Resolution 242, should be secured in the first stage, while the rights should be fulfilled later because the linkage between these two questions impedes a solution. This was not an irreconcilable difference, especially not at the height of the formula-searching process. The reason for the king's speech does not lie in the talks in Amman; the real reason should be looked for elsewhere. It is more likely that Husayn despaired of Israel. He very closely followed Shim'on Peres and how he maneuvered his way through the impossible government in Israel and gave him a chance up to a certain point. It seems that the breaking point was the Sharon affair.

For Husayn (and Mubarak), this was a test of whether Peres would be a long-term interlocutor or whether he would soon have to vacate his seat to Shamir; and Peres flunked the test. He proved that he was not determined to fight the Likud in order for his concepts to be accepted by the people. Egypt was further disappointed by the way in which he handled the Tabah affair, and Husayn learned this lesson too. Assuming that Husayn had gambled on Peres and entered negotiations with him, such a move would immediately have provoked dangerous tension with Syria. Had Husayn known Peres was determined and was not going to abandon him halfway down the road, he might have taken the risk. However, when he realized that Peres intended to uphold his credibility as a man who sticks to his agreements, he understood that he would have been driven into a difficult situation. He would have been faced with Shamir and Sharon, who regard the East Bank as the alternate homeland of the Palestinians, and he would have had Syria, which is prepared to make a deal with the Likud just to dethrone him, raging at his back.

Husayn could not enter the political process without 'Arafat, and his divorce from him is tantamount to a divorce from the political process. The very fact that Peres demanded that Husayn get rid of 'Arafat shows that Peres was not prepared to risk a confrontation with the Likud, and if he is not prepared to have confrontations, he is not the type of leader capable of leading Israel to peace. This was exacerbated by the threats against the "terrorist headquarters" in Amman, voiced not only by Sharon, which further convinced the king that a deal with the Labor Party would be a dangerous adventure. And, in the absence of a political process, Jordan would rather tackle the Likud's advent to power with an alliance with Syria, before the Likud lets Husayn have it. Consequently, the failure of the negotiations in Amman had been preordained since Jordan did not find Israel to be an interlocutor.

The PLO did a lot of foolish things. It would have been better off compromising earlier on since it had already agreed to confine

Palestinian self-determination to a confederation with Jordan — namely, less than a full-fledged state — and it had specifically recognized Israel in its latest formulations in Amman. Now the fear is that the whole story might start all over from the beginning, and those who did not want 'Arafat might get Ahmad Jibril instead.

AL-QUDS: Israel, Not PLO, Impediment to Peace

TA251917 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 23 Feb 86 pp 1, 11

[Editorial:"The PLO Is Not an Obstacle"]

[Text] No one among us can doubt the excellent Jordanian-Palestinian relations or disclaim the solid ties existing between the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples. This is not the core of the disagreement that has emerged between the PLO and Jordan, as numerous parties are trying to depict. Likewise, anyone trying to portray Israel as eager to return the occupied Arab lands and the PLO as an impediment to the return of the land is either totally mistaken or does not want to see the facts as they are.

The main obstacle to the return of the land was and continues to be Israel. Consecutive Israeli Governments acted to Judaize the land, violating Security Council Resolution 242, the same resolution that the PLO has been asked to recognize, as if by not recognizing this resolution the PLO is intensifiying the Judaization of the land and the division of the Palestinian people.

We say that since 1973 Syria has recognized Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, but this did not prevent Israel from annexing the Syrian heights in 1981 and converting their Syrian inhabitants into Israelis of Arab origin. We are also observing developments in the Israeli-Egyptian talks on Tabah. Egypt not only recognized Resolutions 242 and 338 but signed a separate peace with Israel, yet this was to no avail for Egypt in the face of Israeli intransigence and persistence in holding occupied lands.

The obstacle is not the PLO. The Palestinian leadership took giant steps toward a just and durable solution of the Arab-Israeli conflict, and agreed on the right to self-determination within the framework of a confederation, thus opening new horizons and dimensions for the Palestinian process. Following this, it appointed members to the Palestinian side in the joint delegation and agreed on the principle of negotiations by means of an international peace conference. All this collided with the impregnable Israeli-U.S. barrier and their plans aimed at dividing the Arabs by means of seeking separate and individual solutions.

The Palestinian people in the occupied lands are fully aware of the dimensions of the continuation of the no-peace-and-no-war situation because they are the first ones who pay the heavy cost for this situation. However, despite this awareness the Palestinian people have not reached the stage of tearing themselves apart with their own hands by blaming the PLO and exonerating Israel and the United States. How can they do this when on a daily basis they experience one Israeli policy after another aimed at imposing the status quo by various means?

We call on all the Arabs, headed by our brothers in Jordan, to laud the PLO for its sincere effort to establish a durable and just peace. Placing the blame on the PLO will do nothing more but tear oneself to pieces and exonerate Israel and the United States from all the calamities that have befallen and will befall us.

RAKAH on Ties With CPSU, Congress Delegation

TA251615 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 25 Feb 86 p 11

[Interview with RAKAH spokesman 'Uzi Burstein, by Ya'ir Lapid; date and place not given]

[Excerpt][Lapid] Have relations between RAKAH and Moscow improved since Gorbachev's rise to power?
[Burstein] The relations were good then and they are good today. To give you an example, a high-level delegation from Moscow participated in our party conference in December. All in all, there has been no drastic change in our relations.

[Lapid] What will Knesset Member Wilner do at the CPSU conference?
[Burstein] He will be there as a guest. RAKAH received an official invitation to send a delegation of guests to the conference. Our Central Committee ruled that Secretary General Wilner and Salim al-Qasim will go. They will be there just like other leaders from communist countries and from Third World countries. This is a large conference, the largest ever, scheduled to last more than 10 days and includes thousands of people. It is a good thing that Wilner is there.

[Lapid] Has anybody dealing with prisoners of Zion approached you with a request that you do something for the prisoners of Zion still in the Soviet Union during the party conference?
[Burstein] No such request has been made. Either way, we have always shown interest in the subject of our own initiative. We have been asking and trying to find out why those still there are being held.

[Lapid] Will you come out publicly for the cause of the prisoners of Zion?
[Burstein] No.

MK's Appeal to CPSU Congress on Behalf of Nudel

TA251805 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Excerpt In a cable to the Soviet Communist Party Congress, the Knesset speaker and all the female Knesset members [MK's] this evening called for prisoner of Zion, Ida Nudel, to be permitted to immigrate to Israel, on the occasion of 15 years since she embarked on her struggle.

The MK's met at the Knesset speaker's office with Ilana Friedman, Ida Nudel's sister, and heard from her that Ida is suffering from intense loneliness in the city where she was sent into exile. The MK's decided they would submit urgent requests to several international bodies, especially to organizations for women in Israel and abroad.

Military Strength Estimated at $47 Billion

TA240949 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 24 Feb 86 p 2

[Report by Shraga Meqel]

[Text] Israel's military strength (the total amount of weapons, ammunition, equipment, and infrastructure in the military sector) is worth over $47 billion, compared to Syria's $30 billion, Jordan's $6.5 billion, and Egypt's $26 billion. These are the findings of a new research work conducted by the Salk Economic Research Institute.

The study, conducted by Ari'el Halperin, shows that the worth of Israel's military strength (the stock of military capital, according to the researcher's definition) has increased since 1979 at an annual rate of 7.1 percent, whereas Syria's has gone up by 12.3 percent, Jordan's by 18.9 percent, and Egypt's has grown by 5.8 percent. As a result, the gap between Israel and Jordan and Syria has narrowed.

In 1979, the stock of Israel's military capital amounted to $33 billion compared to Syria's $16.7 billion and Jordan's $2.8 billion. The study also states that U.S. military aid to Israel to date amounts to $40 billion.

Internal Dispute Delays Arrival of VOA Team

TA211125 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 21 Feb 86 p 1

[Report by 'Aqiva Eldar]

[Text] The U.S. delegation for talks on the VOA transmitters has been asked to postpone its arrival in Israel due to an intergovernmental dispute over the matter of a company to set up the transmitters. The deliberations were scheduled to open early next week with representatives of the Foreign Ministry, the Communications Ministry, and the Justice Ministry. Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i insists that the Cabinet establish a special company to set up the transmitters and provide maintenance services, and he wants 'Amus Prushan, chairman of Israel Electric Company's board of directors, to be its head.

In a debate held not long ago on the matter in the Ministerial Committee for Economic Affairs, most of the ministers voted against establishing a special government company and preferred to hand the project over to the Communications Ministry.

Communications Ministry To Handle VOA Dealings

TA250936 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] The Communications minister will continue to handle the establishment of VOA transmitters in Israel and a special government company will not be set up to this effect. Our correspondent Elihu Ben-On reports that this was agreed in a meeting between the prime minister and the communications minister. The proposal to set up a government company had been raised by the Treasury. The director general of the Communications Ministry is scheduled to confer with the U.S. representatives today to discuss plans for the continuation of the installation of the transmitters.

OAU Council of Ministers' Meeting Opens in Addis Ababa

Dulloo Elected Chairman

AB251738 Dakar PANA in English 1634 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] Addis Ababa, 25 Feb (PANA) — The Council of Ministers of the Organisation of African Unity today elected Mr M. Dulloo, foreign minister of Mauritius, as its current chairman.

The foreign ministers of Gabon, Togo and Zimbabwe were elected as first, second, and third vice-chairman respectively. Egypt was elected as rapporteur.

Reduction of Personnel Considered

AB251747 Dakar PANA in English 1600 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] Addis Ababa, 25 Feb (PANA) — The Organisation of African Unity (OAU) personnel might be reduced from 800 to 700, sources close to the continental body said yesterday in Addis Ababa.

The sources said the move follows the organisation's desire to implement the decision for rehabilitation. The same sources disclosed that it was in the prospect of implementing that decision that the General Secretariat presenting its 1986/87 project budget declared that measures relating to the OAU personnel and Secretariat management will be taken. Part of that move is said to help the member-states cope with the economic crises in their countries.

Reduction of personnel, closing of regional offices and the reorganisation of the Secretariat will be the main elements of the organisation's reforming device to be functional in 1986/87. The savings that are to be realised from the severance allowances to be paid to those affected by the lay-off, as well as repatriation expenses, are estimated to amount to 1.5 million U.S. dollars.

The budget which the ministers are going to vote for during this mainly budgetary session should be a political instrument, it was declared.

Many political measures could put into concrete form the OAU's decision to support African states, namely through implementation of compensatory measures for states hit by economic sanctions, support for sourthern Africa, Interstate Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel (CILLS), Southern African Development Coordinating Conference (SADCC) and the Intergovernmental Authority for Drought and Development (IGADD).

The OAU aims at creating a structure for the coordination of all those activities to harmonise them and bring the financial backers to increase their assistance.

During the work sessions aspects of the preparation of the UN special session on economic matters in Africa will be discussed. In connection with the 43d session of the ministers, the steering committee will meet to evaluate the evolution of the documents supporting the work of the UN session delegates.

On political matters, the Chad conflict will be discussed on the basis of the questions that the committees involved will want to raise. It is indicated that on 2 Feb., the foreign ministers of Senegal and Congo went to Tripoli on a counselling mission.

It is also said that Afro-Arab cooperation has been inactive since the first Afro-Arab summit in Cairo in 1977 and the African ministers will try to examine the conditions of paying the way for an OAU ministerial conference before the end of this year. This is to make the necessary preparations for the convening of the second Afro-Arab summit to be held in Tripoli, in 1987.

Draft Agenda Proposed

AB251810 Dakar PANA in English 1124 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] Addis Ababa, 25 Feb (PANA) — The Council of Ministers of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) opens its budgetary session in Addis Ababa today with the conflict in Chad appearing as two items on the draft agenda.

An unprecedented number of seven items have been proposed by member-states to the usual draft agenda prepared by the OAU Secretariat.

"Chad/Libya conflict" is the title of an item proposed by Chad, while Libya has inscribed an item under the heading: The French Military Aggression Against Chad. Libya has also proposed another item: American Plots and Challenges Against the Socialist Peoples Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

The draft agenda will have to be approved by the council after the formal opening ceremony. The council is to consider the draft regular budget for the financial year 1986/87 amounting to 25.5 million dollars and administrative and institutional matters.

Mali has proposed an item under the heading: Evaluation of the Lagos Plan of Action in the Field of Human Resources, and Senegal has proposed discussion of the draft agreement on cooperation between the OAU and the Intergovernmental Office for Computers. "Information and Development" is the title of the item proposed by Ivory Coast. Application for OAU observer status by the Islamic Call Society has been submitted by Libya.

One important item on the agenda is preparation for the special session of the United Nations General Assembly on the critical economic situation in Africa. On this issue the council will hear a report by the secretary general and another of the Steering Committee.

Topping the political matters is the report of the 45th ordinary session of the Coordinating Committee for the Liberation of Africa. The council, which will be holding the 43d ordinary session, will hear reports by the secretary general on the Middle East situation, Palestine question, implications of the repeal of the Clark Amendment by the U.S. Congress and activities of the OAU Commission of Fifteen on Refugees as well as a report of the Ad Hoc Committee of Seven of the OAU on the Comoran Island of Mayotte.

Afro-Arab cooperation, report, and resolutions of the first extraordinary session of the Conference of African Ministers for Information also figure on the draft agenda.

Several organisations are seeking subventions from the OAU. They include the Pan-African Women's Organisation, Association for the Advancement of Agricultural Science in Africa, Association of African Universities, Confederations of Medical Associations and Societies (CAMAS), Encyclopaedia African Project, Pan-African Youth Movement, and Association of Social Work Education in Africa.

The ministerial council will consider a preliminary report of the Committee of Fourteen on the OAU structural reform.

Under the main item, Education, Scientific, Cultural and Social Matters (ESCAS), the council will discuss preparation of the first conference of African ministers of culture, progress regarding the proposed establishment of African natural resources institute and a report of the secretary general on the present state of the proposed Afro-Arab cultural institute. Other items under this category include application for the status of an OAU specialised institution by the African Bureau of Science Education, report of the secretary general on the revision of the African convention on the conservation of nature and natural resources and on the establishment of an African Rehabilitation Institute (ARI), the utilisation of the marine resources of Africa's exclusive economic zone, and a project for the integrated development of the Fouje Djallon highlands.

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Interviewed on Chad, Terrorism

PM261137 Paris LE FIGARO MAGAZINE in French 22-28 Feb 86 pp 92-93

[Report on interview with Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi by Robert Lacontre in Tripoli — date not given]

[Excerpts] *LE FIGARO MAGAZINE*: What remains of your meeting with Mitterrand in Crete?

Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi: Why are you talking about what remains when our agreement still exists? If the French do not return to Chad, Libya will not use its military forces to intervene in the Chadian civil war. I repeat, if your forces do not intervene, Libya will not intervene. If a war breaks out between the two sides, namely Goukouni Oueddei and Hissein Habre, Libya and France should not do anything. Instead, we must work together to secure a national reconciliation. The achievements of the Crete meeting are inviolable.

LE FIGARO MAGAZINE: But you have cheated....

Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi: French and Libyan interests in all spheres do not depend on what happens in Chad. The Chadian problem is a complicated problem. It may last a century. The development of this problem should not affect our relations. The Chadian tension makes even more serious problems. There were many people in Tripoli recently: sinister-looking Palestinians, visionary ayatollahs, and revolutionaries of all kinds. Al-Qadhdhafi chaired the meeting of the Arab nation's revolutionary high command, in other words, 22 of the most extreme organizations. That gave me an opportunity to meet all the "hardliners" of the Palestinian resistance. There was Abu Nizar, deputy to public enemy number one Abu Nidal [Sabri al-Banna], Habash, Hawatimah, Jibril, and Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha], hijackers and bombers, who were furious at the hijacking of the Libyan plane by the Israelis and declared all-out war on the Zionists and their American protectors. They announced that they were going to blow up all Israeli and U.S. civilian aircraft. There were also Iraqi opponents to Saddam Husayn, enemies of moderate Arab regimes, and Iranian killers. In short the heavy artillery of terrorism. Nobody here believed for one moment that the U.S. aircraft carriers *Coral Sea* and *Saratoga* which were patrolling off the Libyan coast could move into the attack while 2,000 Americans are living here in much better conditions than other foreign nationals, notably the 1,000 French, 8,000 Italians and so forth, and the 12,000 Soviet "advisers." But this show stirred up the feelings of all those who want to destroy capitalist society.

LE FIGARO MAGAZINE: So you support the new stance taken by these extremists?

Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi: What I know is that the war between the Palestinians and Zionists has been going on since 1936 and that the Americans have constantly encouraged Israel's violence. That is why the Palestinians are obliged to do the same thing. *LE FIGARO MAGAZINE*: How do you explain the fact that this Palestinian-Israeli war should export terrorism to the Western countries?

Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi: The problem is that there are no particular rules governing violence. It was the Israelis who first took this war outside Palestine. In my view both sides are responsible for what you call terrorism. (Libya has proposed holding an international conference to define the limit between acts of war and terrorism — *LE FIGARO MAGAZINE* editor's note)

LE FIGARO MAGAZINE: So you accept the fact that aircraft blow up in mid-air killing innocent people?

Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi: This is a decision which concerns the Palestinians themselves.

LE FIGARO MAGAZINE: What about the bombs planted indiscriminately in Paris?

Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi: There are bombs which are part of the context of this Palestinian-Israeli war and there are those which are outside the Palestinian context. I think the latter constitute terrorism. For instance, what about the bombs in Kuwait and the recent bombs in Paris? These are acts of terrorism.

LE FIGARO MAGAZINE: What is your attitude toward that kind of terrorism?

Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi: I condemn it outright.

LE FIGARO MAGAZINE: You talk constantly about the Arab nation, but surely the Arabs constantly fight each other?

Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi: It is simple. Imagine France divided into 22 states, most occupied by a foreign nation. At that point the Israelis seize Bordeaux (Al-Qadhdhafi has done his homework on me. He knows I come from Bordeaux — Lacontre note). Do you think there would be unanimity on expelling the invaders?

LE FIGARO MAGAZINE: So nobody wants the unity, especially not the superpowers?

Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi: That is true. But a distinction must be drawn between the superpowers. The Americans are imperialists. The Soviets is not in the Soviet camp. It is a nonaligned country. It is therefore not necessary for Libya to be in complete agreement with Moscow. You know we are vigilant and cautious.

General People's Congress Holds Session

Secretary Addresses Session

LD252136 Tripoli JANA in English 1907 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Spelling of names as received]

[Text] Al-Bayan al-Awal, Jumada Thani 15, Feb 25, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — This morning in Qar Yuneis

University in the city of Al-Bayan al-Awal (Banghazi) the eleventh regular meeting of the General People's Congresses passed at their third regular meeting in 1395 (starting from the departure of the prophet) corresponding to 1985 ad. Dr Muftan al-Usta Umar, secretary of the General People's Congress, delivered a speech at the opening session, welcoming the friendly and brotherly delegations saying:

O brothers, on behalf of your secretariat and yourselves, I greet the brothers and friendly guests who are most welcome in our country being among their brothers as dear guests in a good and generous country. We welcome the Algerian Delegation Headed by brother Abdullah Nuwareih, member of the Central Committee. Also, we welcome the delegation of the Yemen Arab Republic headed by brother 'Ali Muqbil. Also welcome are the delegations of the Republic of Mali headed by the chairman of National Assembly, Haj Sediq Deiri, and our friends from friendly Romania headed by Constantin Radu, secretary of the Central Committee of the Romanian Communist Party, and we welcome our brothers the representatives of the diplomatic corps accredited to Al-Jamahiriyah.

O brothers, we meet here in the city of Al-Bayan al-Awal while getting ready to commemorate the priceless anniversary of an immortal day — it is the occasion when the people's authority was announced and the first Jamahiriyah was born in history. This get-together now has an added significance, for we are here to formulate resolutions passed by the masses of the basic people's congresses. It is these masses that have the say and we cherish and protect their will in our hearts, writing them with letters that illuminate. They are wise and decisive resolutions expressing explicitly a free will of a free people and expressing truthfully previous meanings and feelings experienced by the masses with the passage of last year and the outbreak of the new one. These humanitarian and pan-Arab feelings have inspired us all to propagate them to the world at large.

We are holding such a meeting in this esteemed university and in this famous city that has been doubly honoured by its long jihad (holy war) and the announcement in it of the outbreak of the revolution heralding a new dawn. This meeting makes us feel more proud of our people that have gained more experience with the passage of time and have been made stronger by their Great Al-Fatih Revolution to stand firm against most powerful oppressors.

We have broken up the fetters we were placed in and have purged our land of foreign bases and have also overthrown a puppet and rotten regime making our homeland materializing the revolution and have for the first time made our country free. Our land, sea and air space are ours. We are proceeding forward to build our country cherishing our high hopes and sustained by the drive of our revolution, accomplishing more and more achievements tirelessly, not to mention paving the way for achieving the unity that will bring all the separate parts together bringing into existence the best nation that has ever been created among humanity, going forward to build more and more civilizations, shouldering its responsibilities, and carrying out the message as Allah has selected as guidance for all human beings.

The revolution, through its determined steps and far-sightedness, has passed through and surmounted many obstacles. It has taken the road of complete independence relying on its own judgement and strong will, bringing about the Green Book, the guide to people for freedom and emancipation.

The masses have made their march in the revolution, getting rid of all obstacles and sources of exploitation, building new relations among the rank and file of society based on equality of opportunity and deep-rooted humanity heralding the new era — the era of the masses. They have declared that Libya has become a safe haven for the masses that strive for equality and freedom, building the basic people's congresses and people's committees.

The masses have assumed power in a direct manner and alone have possessed authority, wealth and weapons. Furthermore, workers have become partners and exploitation has ended once and for all where no hegemony is tolerated from any one. Now, no one fears anybody except Allah, the Almighty.It lightens the hearts, fascinates the minds and the source of light gets into the ears of the oppressed. Al-Fatih emerges, determinations strengthen, intentions revive, earth shakes beneath tyranny and people's volcanoes awaken, the thrones crumble, regimes and rulers topple and conflict between the Green Book and Red sheets rages and between good and evil, between light and darkness so that in the near future it reaches its limit when the hour of salvation arrives and it rises and shines before the end of the 20th Century — the era of the masses. It had contained the whole world and was contained. The hideouts of tyrannys and the manipulations strongholds panic, then hatred and the hirelings' and agents' tyranny prevails. Rule chairs that are under drums start to shake, cauldrons of fury and anger start to boil in disgust against them. The evil clique massed its forces on the borders. Mercenaries and outsiders are gathered against us, but they are repulsed by a firm, steady determination. They retreat broken and disspirited when its peoples will judge them and their punishment is near. Without shame, America advances, where its satellites had retreated, and bluntly reveals its ugly, disgraceful face. It's bluntness through history has made it forget the memories of Vietnam and Lebanon. Like a devil it confronts us by fabricating barricades and reasons thinking that it can get to the Libyan revolution and its leader the colonel.

The clique of evil undertakes the task of preparation for confrontation with us without resorting to logic or thought, that a consideration bigger than its might, that we make victors, nations and the oppressed. It is burned with rage that we do not enter or be persuaded — we reject to line-up in the humiliation queu of its agents, the honour of the revolution prevents us from queuing in that disgraceful line. The blind hatred fills the chest of a hateful old man whose heart is filled by black hate which leads him to plot treacherous conspiracies in an effort to extinguish the flame in silence and to suffocate freedom and put the volcano fire out to reach at the great spirit of the revolution.

Imperialism has lost its consciousness and declared a state of emegency to lay siege to our country amassing its military fleets off our shore, but has forgotten that our brave Armed Forces are ready to combat to defend our homeland. The news of these U.S. provocations was received by the leader of the revolution, but he did not panic and right in front of the hostile fleets he declares

that he and his people are ready to die to defend the sovereignty of his country and safeguard our heritage, land and freedom. He also exposes the evil machinations of the U.S. and makes it clear that no power can make us kneel to it and that we are unquestionably victorious. Faced with such strength of will and defiant stand, the enemy has retreated in fear. In the meantime, the masses have been made more confident in themselves and their victorious revolution taking to the streets in demonstrations of anger [words indistinct] more and more support for freedom-fighters worldwide.

Throughout our country the congresses have held meetings to stress that their revolutions are one and that all the people are ready to fight until victory over the enemy is achieved and also that they are to be suicide-squads in defence of the revolution.

Peoples from all over the world have expressed their solidarity with the Arab nation and in particular with the cause of the Palestinian people to return home [words indistinct] their struggle for liberation and Arab unity.

At [words indistinct] leader unexpectedly called on them to announce the birth of international secretariat comprising all the peoples to confront imperialism and neocolonialism.

Also Zionism, fascism any [words indistinct] and holds high the banner of the [words indistinct] and oppressed. It announced that Libya is the focus of Jamahiriyah's internationalism and the base for launching revolution and revolutionaries. The hearts are filled with joy in the revolution and its maker - the father of revolutionaries.

The people realises its role and its historic leader "and it knows it is the vanguard in the struggle [words indistinct] tyrants. The Gulf battle will inevitably be al-qadisiya and yarmuk and as before the new tyrant will end so will all empires of manipulation, oppression and terror. "The black house" will crumble [words indistinct] on its clique and its foolish single old man.

I beg your pardon brothers for I was carried out in [words indistinct] we lived and [words indistinct] remembered throughout the generations [words indistinct]. We thank Allah and acknowledge unreserved gratefulness to who set the revolution and estabished people's freedom. Who built the masses' era. You revolutionary will stay forever the spirit of the revolution, the inspiration of the revolutionaries. You will remain the knight that lives inside of our hearts as a [words indistinct]. You will be in our [words indistinct].

The assistant secretary general added, the masses ofthe basic people's congresses have taken measures in response to theAmerican administration's decision to freeze Libyan assets, including:

Imposing an embargo on American interests at home and abroad,and the immediate reaction to the campaigns waged by [words indistinct] and Israel on all fronts.

Urging Arab countries to withdraw their funds from American banks, and calling on the General People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison to pursue the matter and should America oppose this moveits assets in Arab states should be frozen.

To make every effort to repossess the assets frozen by Americaby all means, enlisting the help of legal experts in respondingto American imperialist arrogance.

The calling on socialist, Mediterranean, non-aligned andLatin American states to stand by the Jamahiriyah and back themove by Arab states to withdraw their assets from American banks.

It urged Arab states to make moves towards the issuing of aunified Arab currency to replace the U.S. dollar.

Calling on Arab labour unions not to handle American ships andaircraft.

The nationalisation of all American assets in the Jamahiriyahand the use of those assets in funding the great man-maderiver.

Granting of political assylum in Libya to all Americans wishing that while continuing to care for Americans working inJamahiriyah in accordance with the teachings of Islam.

Boycott of American goods and the halt of oil supplies toAmerica.

The establishment of an Arab common market aimed at building and improving inter Arab relations.

The destruction of American interests in the Arab homeland,and calling on the League of Arab States to cut Arab relationswith America while forming suicide Arab squads against Americaif need be.

The lodging of a complaint with UN Security Council against America's freezing of Libyan funds.

To continue support for the Palestinian people and the formingof an Arab joint military command to regain Palestinian rights.

Support for the anti-American green movement in Europe.

This was followed by a speech from Ali Mustapha al-Haitham,head of the delegation of the Yemeni Arab Republic, in which heexpressed his happiness at being in Libya to witness at firsthand the achievements of the people of the Socialist People'sLibyan Arab Jamahiriyah and the Great Al-Fatih Revolution. He extended the greetings of the Arab people of Yemen to theLibyan Arab people. He stressed the support of the Arab people of Yemen to the people of the Jamahiriyah in their defiant stand against American imperialism. He ended by wishing the congress success in its dealings.

Resolutions Reported

NC251319 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic
0959 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Report by the assistant secretary general -not further identified — of the Libyan General People's Congress to the 11th

Regular Congress Session held at Ghar Yunis University in Banghazi — live]

[Text] At their ordinary session preceding the General People's Congress, the people's congresses interupted their meetings and held an emergency session to confront the provocative terrorist acts of the United States against the masses of the people's congress. They also wished to confront the deployment of fleets off the Libyan shores, and adopted several resolutions accordingly. These resolutions include the following [numbers as heard]:

1. To introduce a state of maximum alert, make available the maximum quantity of weapons, transform cities and villages into camps, and prepare working papers for remote cities in anticipation of any emergency.

2. To declare an all-out war of liberation to free the occupied Arab land from the sea to the river.

To undertake strenuous political and informational activity to tell the world that the United States and the Zionist entity are to be held responsible for the outbreak of world war.

To commission the Foreign Liaison Bureau to stress the need to implement the joint defense pact and intensify cooperation with fraternal and friendly states, and to speed up progress toward Arab unity.

To warn those Mediterranean littoral states where U.S. bases are situated that the war will spread to these states should any move be made from these bases. The Foreign Liaison Bureau shall take the necessary measures to urge these states to form anti-U.S. fronts and free the Mediterranean of the presence of U.S. fleets.

To authorize the Foreign Liaison Bureau to take action in the international arena, in the UN Security Council and General Assembly, to expose the terrorist practices of the United States and Zionism against the Jamahiriyah.

To form suicide squads to strike at the enemy. To call on the living forces in the Arab world to play their role at this crucial time and confront the United States and Zionism.

To speed up the formation of a united military command to include Syria and Iran as well as all brothers to fight the battle against the invaders. To reiterate our alliance with the socialist bloc led by the Soviet Union. To assert that the issue of Palestine is the central issue and to stress the need to support the fighters in the occupied territories and in Lebanon.

To speed up the formation of a united command between Syria and Iran. To place the resources of the Jamahiriyah at the disposal of the Palestinian fighters to enable them to liberate Palestine from the sea to the river. To urge all Arab, fraternal, and friendly states to adopt the same stand as the Jamahiriyah.

To invite the Arab brothers to resolve their differences and build up their political and economic relations so that we may attain the desired unity. This can be attained by ceasing to cooperate with U.S. imperialist companies and by ceasing to supply oil to the United States and its hirelings.

To join the Green Guards. To persuade all friendly and fraternal states to introduce a political and economic boycott of the United States.

To renew relations with those European states that refused to impose economic sanctions on the Jamahiriyah, and to promote cooperation with friendly and fraternal states.

To speed up the process toward unity among Arab countries and to stand up to hostile countries as an equal.

To divert the battle from Libyan land to U.S. bases everywhere, to engage in acts of confrontation, and to support liberation movements in other parts of the world, for example, the green movement in Europe and the red Indian and black movements in the United States.

To transform the Mediterranean into a lake of peace.

To confiscate all U.S. assets in the Jamahiriyah, unless the United States ends the freeze on [Libyan] assets in U.S. banks, and to urge all Arab countries to withdraw their deposits held in the United States.

To stop buying U.S. products and the products of U.S. allies and to follow a policy of self-reliance instead.

To support armed struggle in the Arab world.

To instruct the Foreign Liaison Bureau to continue peaceful dialogue and to seek the release of Libyan deposits in U.S. banks.

To implement a program of general mobilization.

To confront all attempts to harm the Great Al-Fatih Revolution.

To form a committee to enlist all those who volunteer to carry out suicide operations, and to train these volunteers and prepare them for such action.

To salute Syria and Iran for their support of the Jamahiriyah.

To call on friendly and fraternal countries to take a stand on provocations of the Jamahiriyah's people by U.S. imperialists and Zionists.

To salute all states which have taken serious and positive attitudes in support of the Jamahiriyah vis-a-vis the U.S. threats.

The people of the Jamahiriyah are armed and ready to respond to the challenge and defend themselves and their land. The Jamahiriyah is not another Grenada or Tunis.

The people's congresses also decided that Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi is their only leader, only thinker, and only guide. He is the leader of the popular revolution in the Jamahiriyah, the Arab world, and the world as a whole.

The People's Congresses also decided:

To entrust Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi with the task of getting in

touch with revolutionary forces in other countries so that new people's congresses may be formed throughout the world and popular revolution everywhere may be supported. He is entitled to take all necessary measures to ensure the success of this mission and to give credence to the findings of the cultural conferences which have been held.

To identify and strike at all those who offer facilities to the enemy across artificial borders: This is an act of intervention.

To fight stray dogs everywhere and to hit them with an iron fist.

To use pictures of Israel's dog Reagan for target practice in shooting ranges, instead of the present targets.

To emphasize the need for declaring comprehensive Arab unity from the ocean to the Gulf.

To address calls for the liberation of Islamic and peace-loving peoples and to urge them to adopt anti-U.S. imperialist stands.

To undertake moves at all international seminars that will expose U.S. plans and present the results achieved by the basic people's congresses.

To call on all liberation organizations in the world to resist imperialism, and to continue to give support to the Palestinian cause and to fighters in southern Lebanon.

To reiterate the need for unity with Syria and alliance with Iran.

These then are the resolutions which were adopted by the basic people's congresses at their emergency session.

The second [as heard] point discussed by the basic people's congresses concerns... [sentence interrupted by cheers and applause] The congresses adopted resolutions regarding the U.S. Administration's decision to freeze Jamahiriyah assets. These resolutions include the following:

To impose an economic blockade on all U.S. interests and to respond immediately to U.S. and Israeli campaigns at every level.

To ask Arab states to withdraw their assets from U.S. banks, and to request that the Foreign Liaison Bureau follow up on this. If the United States rejects this demand, then all its assets in Arab states should be frozen.

To use all available means to regain Libyan assets, and to refer this issue to specialized legal advisers who will formulate an appropriate response to this U.S. arrogance.

To call on the socialist bloc, the Nonaligned Movement, the Mediterranean countries, and the Latin American nations to side with the Libyan people.

To hold an emergency Arab conference that will curb the U.S. blockade against Libya, adopt a unified Arab stand, and consider Libya to be the center for all free men.

To emphasize the need for asking that fraternal and friendly states not sell oil to the United States, to express appreciation to the West European nations and friendly states which refused to heed U.S. orders, to intensify cooperation with these countries, and to boycott those which revolve in the U.S. orbit.

To freeze U.S. assets and economic interests in the Jamahiriyah, and to call on Arab states to do likewise or to withdraw their funds from U.S. banks in solidarity with the Jamahiriyah.

To speed up the issuance of a unified Arab currency that will replace the U.S. dollar.

To urge Arab trade unions and workers not to cooperate with U.S. ships and aircraft.

To nationalize all U.S. companies, as well as their movable and fixed assets, in the Jamahiriyah and to exploit them in our great industrial process.

To support the green movements in Europe so that they will be able to confront U.S. terrorism, and to urge European states to end the U.S. military presence there.

To file a case at the International Court of Justice in the Hague against the U.S. Administration, to instruct the Libyan Central Bank to take the measures it deems appropriate regarding this issue, and to direct this bank to request that foreign and international banks intercede to make the United States release Libyan funds.

To grant political asylum to all Americans who wish it, and to protect those Americans who have rejected the U.S. Administration's order and are working in the Jamahiriyah, treating them in accordance with our principles, traditions, and Islamic religion.

To boycott U.S. goods and refrain from pumping oil to the United States.

To establish a joint Arab market that will build and improve inter-Arab relations.

To destroy U.S. interests in the Arab world, ask the Arab League to sever relations with the United States, and form revolutionary suicide squads should the need arise.

To give full support to the Palestinian people, and work toward establishing a unified Arab military command that will confront the United States and Zionism.

To lodge a complaint at the UN Security Council against the freezing of Libyan assets in U.S. banks.

To increase trade exchange with friendly states, particularly the socialist bloc, and to promote the stand of those European states which have not submitted to U.S. hegemony.

To submit to the International Court of Justice the case of the 10 Libyan planes that were paid for and that are being held in the United States.

To complete the great artificial river project and turn the Jamahiriyah into a green country.

To arm the people so they cannot be blockaded or starved out, and to take the battle to the doorstep of the Zionist enemy.

To confront the defiance of hostile states, headed by America with our own defiance, and to empty the Mediterranean of foreign fleets.

To carry out a program of comprehensive mobilization and raise readiness to the maximum degree so as to face up to all challenges with determination and resolution.

To be bound by the statements made by the leader of the Great Al-Fatih Revolution in his news conferences; these statements express the true sentiments of all Libyan Arabs.

To hail the stance of brotherly and friendly states, which have declared their solidarity with the people of the Jamahiriyah and have refused to go along with any measures. These include the brotherly Arab states, the socialist states led by the Soviet Union, and the West European states.

To ally with all the world liberation movements and inflict defeat on the United States, the enemy of peoples, freedom, and peace.

To appeal to the sons of the Arab homeland to set aside their differences and engage in dialogue to achieve Arab unity in accordance with the concepts of the leader of the revolution, and to dedicate Arab capabilities to confronting U.S. and Zionist threats against the Arab nation.

To call on all free and peace-loving peoples to declare their stand toward the U.S. Administration whose behavior sets a serious precedent that threatens the security, safety, and freedom of the peoples of the world.

To urge the Arab states to invest their funds in the friendly states that support the Arab cause.

To consider the U.S. measures against the Jamahiriyah as a contradiction of international law.

To ask the Third World states to withdraw their funds from the United States.

To deposit Arab funds in Arab banks and achieve the economic integration of the Arab world.

To strengthen economic ties with the West European states.

To issue an ultimatum to the United States telling it that it will be held responsible for any harm befalling Libyan Arabs.

To abide forever by the ideas of the leader, teacher, thinker, and revolutionary Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

To reserve the Libyan Arab people's right to make the appropriate decision at the appropriate time to safeguard their freedom and dignity.

To import oil industry equipment from the friendly European states.

To charge the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison with contacting Arab, African, world, and Islamic organizations and agencies to support the Jamahiriyah.

To call upon the trade unions, professional associations, and people's congresses to contact their counterpart organizations in Europe and other countries to explain the U.S. stance and clarify the stance of the Libyan Arab people.

To hold an international conference to distinguish between terrorism and the struggle for freedom.

To call upon the United Nations to bring about an end to the U.S. economic blockade; otherwise, the masses will adopt measures against this blockade.

To ask the American people to make their views on this blockade clear.

To call upon the revolutionary and pan-Arab forces to meet immediately and take a stand against the imperialist U.S. and Zionist threats.

To work to liquidate the U.S. presence in the Mediterranean.

SUDAN

National Security Council on Disarming of Parties

JN261004 Khartoum SUNA in English 0930 GMT 26 Feb 86

[Text] Khartoum, Feb. 26 (SUNA) -- The National Security Council decided that the government has to take the responsibility of dsarming the parties at the end of the period fixed for those parties to hand over their arms. And the government has to carry out this responsibility through the army, police, and security forces.

One of the leaders of the parties, Wali al-Din al-Hadi, has handed his party's weapons to the concerned authorities interior Minister Gen 'Abbas Madani said to the daily *AL-AYYAM* in its today issue, adding that another party, which he did not name, handed its weapons to a foreign body.

CHAD

Habre Holds News Conference; U.S. Materiel Arrives

LD251637 Paris International Service in French 1245 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] Hissein Habre gave a news conference in Ndjamena this morning. He was speaking publicly for the first time since the air raids of last week and since the beginning of the French military operation, the "Epervier Operation." The Chadian head of state is apparently quite pleased with what has occurred. Listen to what our special correspondent, Daniel (Desesquelle), has to say.

We are not warmongers — this is what President Habre said in his news conference this morning. Once again he recalled that his country, which has suffered so greatly from many years of fighting, wants national reconciliation and reconstruction, preferably through peaceful means.

However, Habre does not delude himself about the chances of success for the OAU peace initiative. So, will there be a resumption of fighting on the ground? The Libyans, who are reinforcing their troops, must be thinking of this. Habre has no preconceived ideas on the strategy of preventive attacks or, on the other hand, that of strengthening defense lines. In more obvious terms, this means that Habre has not received an assurance from the Elysee that an attack by his forces beyond the 16th parallel would have French air cover.

So, in the face of ill-fortune Hissein Habre is cheerful. He warmly thanked France and President Mitterrand for the assistance Paris has given him at this difficult time, and he appreciates the deployment of the Epervier force, a force which is no more offensive than the Manta operation in 1983.

Some of the questions Hissein Habre was asked this morning dealt with the issue of military tactics, including this question: In the desert, does the one who attacks first have the advantage, as Francois Mitterrand said the other day in Paris? Here's the reply of President Hissein Habre:

[Begin recording] [Habre] I shall tell you very frankly that there are circumstances in which the best action is to attack, and there are circumstances in which defense is the best action. As you know, circumstances change from day to day, from minute to minute. [audience laughter]

[Question] [words indistinct] You greatly criticized the "Manta Operation." Are you also criticizing the "Epervier Operation?"

[Habre] All actions are judged by their results. The "Epervier Operation" is underway. Thus far it is unfolding in an excellent way, but it is too early to judge. [end recording]

On the question of Chad, we must also report the arrival in Ndjamena of the first U.S. military equipment, which has been unloaded at the airport by heavy transport planes. A company of the French marine infantry — paratroopers — has also arrived in the Chadian capital. This brings the number of French soldiers currently in Chad to 600.

AFP Adds Details

AB251828 Paris AFP in French 1428 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] Ndjamena, 25 Feb (AFP) — "Libya is still preparing to attack, and its reinforcements both in men and materials continue to arrive daily" in northern Chad, Chadian President Hissein Habre said in press conference in Ndjamena on Tuesday. The Chadian head of state said "as long as Libya has not renounced its expansionist ideas, the escalation in aggression will continue." For his part, the Chadian president reaffirmed that he wished to solve the issue by peaceful means. He has, however, rejected the mediation of the OAU in this issue, though the organization has already been notified of it. "By its nature and means, the OAU is not a body capable of resolving the issue as Chadians would have hoped," he said. "Until now, the African organization has not solved any important problem."

Asked about the likelihood of an attack by the Chadian National Armed Forces (FANT, government troops) Mr Habre remained very evasive. According to him, an attack depends "on the circumstances, the terrain and the men." "There are circumstances in which an attack is the best line of action, and others in which the best answer is to be on the defensive," he added.

The recent fighting which took place in northern Chad, at Koro Toro, Koumba Olanga and Oum Chalouba was particularly tough, according to Mr Habre, and resulted in "very significant loss of human lives." The offensive had been prepared for 4 months and the fighting done directly by the Libyans, who utilized the Islamic Legion, including Chadians, he added. For Mr Habre, the GUNT [Transitional National Union Government] of Mr Goukouni Oueddei is a "myth." In this regard, he denounced the fact that the important element constituted by the "Libyan aggression" has always been minimized. "There is a lack of courage at the international level because many people cannot pronounce this simple fact: that Libya has no business being in Chad," he observed. This "Chadian-Libyan" affair, according to him, cannot be resolved unless this truth is faced squarely.

Mr Habre expressed satisfaction with the present unanimity in France on the Chadian issue. The political events in France after the legislative elections in March should not be such as would change the French policy toward Chad, he said. "The relations (between Chad and France) are not subject to the internal political contingencies of France" he said. "We have asked the American Government to speek up the delivery of the military aid which it had planned to give us," the Chadian president said, adding however that this aid was of a "low amount." Consequently, Chad is asking for supplementary aid from Washington, he emphasized.

Lastly, concerning the French operation against the runway built by the Libyans at Ouadi Oum (northern Chad,) Mr Habre said "the French aviation scored serious hits against the runway, and rendered it unusable." He was unable to specify if repair works had already started at Ouadi Doum. He remarked, however, that the new concrete runway is not the only one. The old dirt runway is still receiving large transport planes, notably C-130's, he added.

AFP: GUNT Calls for OAU Solution to Crisis

AB251924 Paris AFP in French 1735 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] Paris, 25 Feb (AFP) — The Libyan-backed Transitional National Union Government (GUNT — armed opposition to President Hissein Habre), on Tuesday called on the OAU to "take up responsibilities in order to find an adequate and rapid solution" to the "internal Chadian conflict."

In a statement issued in Bardai and sent to Paris on Tuesday, the GUNT information minister, Brahim Malla, considered that as the conflict is "among Chadians" "the solution can only be found among Chadians themselves." Referring to Ndjamena's request for the inclusion in the agenda of the next OAU ministerial session of "the so-called Libyan aggression," Brahim Malla described this as a "gross lie" and a "pretext for French and American intervention in our internal affairs." "The bellicose and reactionary Ndjamena group is solely responsible for internationalizing the conflict," he said.

The GUNT, the text added, warns all non-African powers against "any military intervention" in Chad which, according to it, would only "prolong the suffering of the Chadian people" and "complicate the search for a peaceful solution." Finally the GUNT solemnly informed the OAU and world opinion of its desire to "actively participate in any initiative aimed at finding a peaceful solution to the Chadian problem under the auspices of the OAU alone."

GHANA

Delegation To Attend USSR Party Congress

AB240919 Accra Domestic Service in English
0700 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] The 27th Soviet Communist Party Congress opens in Moscow tomorrow. The congress is expected to concentrate on the country's socio-economic development. Two members of the Provisional National Defense Council, Mr P.V. Obeng and Brigadier Mensah-Wood have flown to Moscow to attend the congress. The visit is at the invitation of the both the Soviet Government and the Communist Party. Speaking to newsmen before departure, Mr Obeng said the delegation will meet the Soviet deputy prime minister for discussions on economic, trade, and political ties between the Soviet Union and Ghana.

Foreign Affairs Secretary Leaves for OAU Meeting

AB240856 Accra Domestic Service in English
0700 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Excerpt] The secretary for foreign affairs, Dr Obed Asamoah, has flown to Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, at the head of 2-man Ghana delegation to the OAU ministerial conference session which opens tomorrow. The session, which deals with financial and budgetary matters of the organization, will also deliberate on economic as well as political issues facing the continent.

ECHO Criticizes U.S. Diplomat for Striking Reporter

AB230840 Accra Domestic Service in English
0700 GMT 23 Feb 86

[From the press review]

[Text] The *ECHO* says the action of a top U.S. diplomat in Ghana to unleash some blows on a young reporter on the opening day of the all-African Trade Union Unity in Accra sums up the anger of certain interests in their failure to torpedo the congress. [sentence as heard] The behavior of the diplomat also proves the Ghanaian press right in its earlier warning of hideous plots against the meeting. The *ECHO* points out that the long silence of Ghanaians over this behavior of the American diplomat is a further proof of the patience and tolerance of the Ghanaians, even in the face of provocation. It tells President Ronald Reagan that if he is really wanting for terrorists, as he has been saying, then he should find most of his prey in his own diplomatic mission.

TIMES Comments on Chadian Conflict; Criticizes France

AB211025 Accra Domestic Service in English
0700 GMT 21 Feb 86

[From the press review]

[Text] The *GHANAIAN TIMES* looks at the Chad conflict. It says what is significant about the new development is that if the situation is allowed to be solved by Africa as an African problem, the social forces which the Goukouni side represents would certainly gain the upperhand and will get the country from foreign hold. [Sentence as heard] And the sequence of events in the last few years for the Chad problem clearly shows this. The *TIMES* recalls that the first attempt to achieve an African solution of the situation had paved the way for the Chadians to battle the issue among themselves and it led to the victory of the Goukouni forces upon which the OAU built the Chadian government of national unity.

The *TIMES* notes: Foreign forces like the United States and France which think the formation of the government of national unity had done everything to bring discord to the Chadian people. [Sentence as heard] According to the paper, in self-deception they had accomplished their imperialistic mission. The foreign forces went away only to have the Chadian nationalist forces reasserting themselves again, which culminated in their overrunning Habre's defensive line last weekend. The paper beleives that no amount of foreign military support for Habre will save his regime from ultimate defeat. It says the presence of French troops is therefore only prolonging the sufferings of the people of Chad, and helping to maintain Habre's puppet regime through bloodshed.

TIMES Urges Release of Names of 'Traitors'

AB250939 Accra Domestic Service in English
0700 GMT 25 Feb 86

[From the Press Review]

[Text] Continuing its series: "20 Years Since Nkrumah," the *GHANAIAN TIMES* says some innocent soldiers and policemen were used 20 years ago in the design of foreign interests against Nkrumah's reconstruction. This was done in collaboration even with some top right-wing elements of the Convention People's Party [CPP]. Today, vigilance is called for so that history will not repeat itself. To understand why repetition of history will take us back many decades, the *TIMES* recalls some of the clear objectives of the economic program of the First Republic, for example, the Volta River project.

The paper says the betrayal of our nation to foreign interests by the activities of some of our own countrymen is a mark of the highest treachery. And those Ghanaians whom the CIA recently recruited are really traitors ready to sell their country for less than Judas' 30 pieces of silver. Their treachery is what keeps Ghana underdeveloped. It is what makes our efforts at economic recovery so full of painful traits and terms.

The *TIMES* therefore calls on the government to release the names and antecedents of such treacherous Ghanaians, and not just quietly allow them to go away. The paper also reminds Ghanaians that for the nation to regain her sense of national purpose and destiny, they must take a leaf from the historybook of the First Republic and the vision of its founder, Osagyefo Dr Kwame Nkrumah.

PNDC Orders Arrest of Tribunal Chairman

AB250956 Accra Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] The office of the chairman of the Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC] has ordered the arrest of Cheikh Ibrahim Amartey and Addo Aikins, chairman of one of the public tribunals pending investigations into allegations of abuse of power. The two persons are alleged to have illegally caused the arrest and detention of some members of the June 4 Movement.

LIBERIA

Request for Separate Trial of Coup Plotters Denied

AB251150 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0655 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] The motion for a separate trial filed last week requesting the Criminal Court A to separate the trial of James Holder and Robert Philips from that of Anthony Macquee and Lawrence Wills was yesterday denied by the court. The four defendants are on trial for their alleged involvement in the November 12 abortive invasion. Lawyers representing Mr Holder and Philips had contended that their clients should not be tried in group because they said the indictment by the grand jury specifically charged Holder for (?only) providing transportation for the rebels while Macquee and Wills were alleged to be members of the invading forces. They argued that trying the four together on charges of treason [word indistinct].

In his ruling yesterday, Judge (Dublin Helken) said even though the granting of severance is a right when several defendants are jointly indicted, it will be denied in this case because, he said, there was a possible point of connection among the four defendants.

Meanwhile, the defense counsel of Montserrado County, Counselor Steven (Bamba), has been ordered to appear in court today to represent the legal interests of Macquee and Wills who have expressed their inability to retain the services of lawyers to represent them. The trial continues today.

Government To Investigate Silver Sea Affair

AB252053 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 2000 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] It has been reported in Monrovia that the Government of Liberia is investigating to ascertain whether the ship which was headed for West Africa and seized by the French authorities was actually destined for Liberia to overthrow the Liberian government. According to today's edition of the *FOOTPRINTS* newspaper, this was disclosed by two government officials yesterday, whom the paper did not name.

The BBC reported last Saturday that a large quantity of weapons on a ship allegedly heading for West Africa had been seized in France by the authorities there. The BBC report also said that the weapons which were being carried by a Panamanian vessel, the *Silver Sea*, with 13 crew members on board, included bazookas, machineguns and other arms that were discovered during the routine search when the vessel was forced into the port at Brest by a storm.

Meanwhile, 12 of the 13 crew members have been released but the captain of the ship is still detained.

MALI

UDPM Delegation Leaves for CPSU Congress

AB230958 Bamako Domestic Service in French 2015 GMT 22 Feb 86

[Text] A party delegation comprising Sekou Minandiou Traore, secretary for external relations of the BET [Central Executive Bureau] and General Filifing Sissoko, treasurer general of the BET, left for Moscow today within the framework of the cooperation between the Democratic Union of the Malian People [UDPM] and the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. The delegation will attend the 23d ordinary congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union.

NIGERIA

13 Coup Plotters Receive Death Sentence

AB251516 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] Thirteen [number as heard] of the 20 persons tried in connection with last December's abortive coup plot have been sentenced to death by firing squad. They include the former minister for Abuja, Major General Mamman Vatsa. The sentence was handed down on them by the Special Military Tribunal set up to try those suspected to have been involved in the plot to overthrow the government last December.

The other condemned men are Lieutenant Colonel Chris Oche, Lieutenant Colonel Mike Iyorshe, Lieutenant Colonel Musa Bitiyong, Lieutenant Colonel Moses Effiong, Lieutenant Colonel Emmanuel Obeya, Wing Commander Adamu Sakaba, Wing Commander Ben Ekele, Commander A.A. Ogwuji, Squadron Leader Martin Luther King [name as heard], and Major General Bamidele.

Another senior military officer, Brigadier Mohammed Nassarawa, was dismissed from the Nigerian Army after being found guilty of not informing the chief of Army Staff of the plot. Two others were sentenced to life imprisonment, having been found guilty also of concealing information about the coup attempt.

Trial Detailed

AB251558 Paris AFP in English 1550 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Excerpts] Lagos, Feb 25 (AFP) — A military tribunal today sentenced 13 officers, including a Cabinet minister, to death by firing squad for having plotted late last year to overthrow the military government of President Ibrahim Babangida.

The tribunal reviewed the testimony, gave its verdict and heard appeals during a four-hour session in a cramped hearing room packed with journalists in a military camp in Lagos, the capital.

"We have gone strictly by the letters of the law," said the tribunal President, Major General Charles Ndiomu. Observers from the Ministry of Justice and the Bar Association were allowed to witness most of the trial, he added.

Evidence presented at the hearing indicated that three army lieutenant colonels — Musa Bitiyong, Mike Iyorshe and Chris Oche — hatched the plot last September. That was barely a month after General Babangida, then military chief of staff, ousted the head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari, in a smoothly executed palace coup on August 27.

The army officers allegedly enlisted the help of air force colleagues who planned to kill General Babangida by shooting down his presidential jet and bomb an armored division based near Lagos. But they were arrested in late December before any shots were fired.

Gen Vatsa, who alone conducted his own defense, made an emotional plea for his life. Denying testimony that he had warned Gen Buhari to "get rid of" Gen Babangida months before the last coup, he said, "I never held any grudges against anyone." "I have made friends for this country in the international world," he said, "and uplifted the image of the Nigerian military with my literary activities." "I leave you with smiles, as smiles surprise people," he added cryptically.

The sentences may be appealed to the Joint Chiefs of Staff and must be approved by the 28-member ruling Military Council.

Babangida Appoints New High Commissioner to UK
AB251243 Lagos Domestice Service in English
1200 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] A new Nigerian high commissioner to London has been nominated by President Ibrahim Babangida. He is Mr George Dove-Edwin, who, until now, was the permanent secretary, Ministry of External Affairs. The new high commissioner has held many ambassadorial posts since 1966. Mr Dove-Edwin's appointment has received the formal approval of Queen Elizabeth II.

Ukiwe on Strengthening Relations With Soviet Union
AB251649 Lagos Domestic Service in English
1500 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] The chief of General Staff, Commodore Ebitu Ukiwe, has stressed the need to strengthen relations between Nigeria and the Soviet Union. Commodore Ukiwe stated this today when he received the Soviet ambassador to Nigeria, Mr Yuriy Kuplyakov, at Dodan Barracks. He said although Nigeria appreciated Soviet assistance, there was a lot more that the two countries could achieve together. In an interview with State House correspondents, the Soviet envoy attributed the problems being faced by his country in the execution of the Ajaokuta steel project to the stoppage of work for 2 years by the French companies handling the civil construction aspect of the job.

Commentary Views Ghanaian Leader Rawlings' Attack
AB211330 Lagos Domestic Service in English
2100 GMT 20 Feb 86

[Alex Ekeyaoun commentary]

[Text] Nigeria and Ghana are two countries whose relationship goes beyond the mere establishment of diplomatic ties. Indeed, their friendship is historical. The founding fathers of the two West African states have a nostalgic history of mutual and beneficial association dating back to the pre-independence era. The result of this long-standing and special relationship is that whatever happens to one country becomes a source of constraint to the other. Perhaps, this explains why the Federal Military Government expressed surprise at the uncomplementary statement credited to the Ghanaian head of state, Flight Lieutenant Jerry Rawlings, in which he accused Nigeria of being an agent of imperialism.

As if he established the authenticity of his claim, Jerry Rawlings went further to assert that imperialists were afraid of Libya becoming a major power, hence, they bought off many African leaders, including the so-called giant of Africa, from attending the summit conference of the OAU in Tripoli. Even the *GHANAIAN TIMES*, a government-owned newspaper, made copious references to Nigeria as an imperialist lackey.

Nothing can be more insulting and slanderous. At this stage, it would be revelent to atttempt an explanation of what imperialism is. As a concept, imperialism refers primarily to attempts to establish or retain formal sovereignty over subordinate political society. It can also mean the exercise of any form of political control or influence by one political community over another.

By implication, therefore, the Ghanaian leader is saying that Nigeria is a tool through which Western imperialism advances its interests by subjugating the wishes and national aspirations of the African people. The facts available point clearly to the contrary. Take for instance the incident of the 1978 Commonwealth Conference in Lusaka, Zambia, when it became obvious that the British Government was not playing the proper role expected of it in Rhodesia. It took Nigeria's threats before Britain set in motion the necessary machinery that ushered in the newly independent state of Zimbabwe. Again, when the Portuguese beat a hasty retreat in Angola, the contending liberation movements locked themselves in a bitter civil war. The OAU found itself in complete disarray. Angola was hanging dangerously at the edge of a cliff.

It was Nigerian diplomacy at the subsequent OAU conference that saved Angola from total collapse. In the on-going struggle for the independence of Namibia and black majority rule in South Africa, Nigeria has continued to make significant contributions. These are a few examples. And, one may ask, are these roles supportive of the grand designs of imperialism in Africa? Can Nigeria's nonattendance of the 1982 OAU summit in Tripoli, Libya, be interpreted to mean an alliance with imperialism?

Of course, Jerry Rawlings himself knows that the answer to these questions is an unequivocal no. Therefore, his attack on Nigeria can be best described as mere emotional outburst. His utterances are clearly unguarded and undiplomatic. Ghana today is trying to stand on her feet after several years of severe economic depression. This is enough problem for the Ghanaian head of state and it is one to which he should devote all his energy.

Nigeria has made it clear that trading tirades is not part of the tradition of her diplomacy and that civility should not be interpreted to mean weakness. There is no doubt that Rawlings did not speak the mind of the people of Ghana.

Defense Industries Corporation Produces Weapons
AB210810 Lagos Domestic Service in English
0600 GMT 21 Feb 86

[Text] The Defense Industries Corporation [DIC], Kaduna, now produces four types of firearms. The latest is the production of double-barrel-guns. The others are submachine guns for the police and customs, light automatic rifles, and personnel armored carriers used by the Armed Forces [sentence as heard]. All the ammunitions required for the firearms are also manufactured in the factory from local raw materials.

The assistant commercial manager, Edwin Ogunbor, told the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA that the corporation plans to produce quartermaster items, such as uniforms, shoes, caps, and berets for Armed Forces personnel. The DIC, which was established about two decades ago, has often been criticized for its inability to make Nigeria self-sufficient in defense weapons.

SENEGAL

Congolese President Arrives; Welcomed by Diouf
AB251249 Dakar Domestic Service in French
2200 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Excerpts] A warm and spontaneous welcome was accorded to Denis Sassou-Nguesso, the Congolese head of state in Dakar today. He was welcomed by President Abdou Diouf, the president of the economic and special council, and top civilian and military authorities. Two speeches were delivered at the Dakar Yof Airport. Let us listen first to the welcoming speech made by President Abdou Diouf:

[Begin Diouf recording] Mr President of the People's Republic of Congo, madam: The government and the people of Senegal are welcoming you today with great joy to Dakar, our capital. In you, Mr President, I am welcoming a personal friend, and the Senegalese people are welcoming the head of a brotherly country of people with whom they have had, for a very long time now, secure and friendly ties. Indeed, Brazzaville and Pointe Noire, to cite but a few cities, are names of very familiar cities to many Senegalese. In you, Mr President, we are also welcoming an active champion of causes dear to our hearts, I am referring to the liberation, the stability, and the unity of mother Africa. That is why, as you will soon realize, your official visit to Senegal constitutes an important event. [end recording]

Let us now listen to Denis Sassou-Nguesso answering President Diouf:

[Begin Sassou-Nguesso recording] Mr President and dear brother: In stepping for the first time on Senegalese soil, I cannot hide the deep emotion I am feeling while discovering this country with which we have long-standing historical ties that closely bring us together. I come here as proof of a sincere friendship that is the fruitful result of a melting of the spirit and the heart between two communities with closely linked goals.

I am here to continue with you the debate we have started for a long time now on the trend of the cooperation policy between our two countries and our peoples, to draw some lessons from the past, to better manage the present, and to question the future in order to seek ways and means to bring about a happy coexistence. This is the framework within which the fruitful talks we will hold during the 72 hours of my visit here will be set.

On the other hand, I also came here to meet the current chairman of the OAU. I came here to give my encouragement to a brother who has given a new impulse and a new soul to our common struggle, the struggle of a recaptured Africa, mature, and more than ever determined in its desire to entirely assume its destiny in order to participate, rehabilitated and proud, in the construction of the world of tomorrow. [end recording]

BOTSWANA

Security Talks With RSA Continue; Delegates Named

MB251254 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 1113 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] Botswana and South Africa are continuing their round of security talks in Gaborone. The talks at official level are a sequel to similar security discussion held in the South African capital, Pretoria, about 2 weeks ago. The two delegations exchanged introductions at the Gaborone Sun this morning in what appeared to be an atmosphere of familiarity and ease.

The Botswana delegation is headed by the permanent secretary to the president, Mr Festus Mogae. The delegation includes Botswana Defence Force commander, Major General Mpompati Merafe; commissioner of police, Mr Simon Hirschfield; Brigadier Ian Khama Seretse Khama; Botswana's ambassador to the United States, Mr S.T. Ketlogetswe; and President Masire's senior private secretary, Mr Mogolori Modisi.

The South African delegation includes Mr A. S. Marais, director of the Botswana-Lesotho-Swaziland desk in the South African Foreign Affairs Ministry. The delegation is headed by Mr N.P. van Heerden, who is the deputy director general of foreign affairs for the African division.

RSA Reaffirms ANC Threat

MB251443 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1439 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] Gaborone, Feb 25, SAPA — South Africa today reiterated its contention that the presence in Botswana of the African National Congress in whatever guise constituted a threat to the security of the republic, and tha' he South African Government reserved the right to defend th lives of its citizens and their property.

The BOTSWANA PRESS AGENCY reports from Gaborone that Pretoria's position was contained in a release issued by the Botswana President's Office after hours of talks involving senior officials and representatives of the security services from both countries which took place at a luxury hotel here this morning. The meeting was a follow-up to one which took place in Pretoria on Feb 5.

In response to South Africa's "veiled threat," the Botswana delegation stated Botswana did not allow its territory to be used for military attacks against its neighbours, BOPA reported.

The Botswana officials also said any ANC attacks from Botswana territory could take place only without the knowledge of the Botswana authorities.

The release added the Botswana delegation undertook to use "their best endeavours to prevent the country being so used," BOPA quoted the statement as saying.

Joint Security Agreement Reached

MB260550 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 26 Feb 86

[Text] Senior government officials of South Africa and Botswana have agreed in Gaborone to take steps aimed at preventing Botswana territory from being used by members of the ANC.

A statement issued by the Botswana President's Office after talks between the officials said both delegations had undertaken to use their best endeavors to prevent Botswana from being used as a transit by ANC combatants.

The statement said the South African delegation had reiterated their government's contention that the presence in Botswana of the ANC in whatever guise constituted a threat to the security of South Africa, and that the South African Government reserved its right to defend the lives of its citizens.

In response, the Botswana delegation stated that Botswana did not allow its territory to be used for military attacks against its neighbors.

Yesterday's talks were the second in 3 weeks between the two countries. The South African delegation was led by the deputy director for African affairs in the foreign ministry, Mr Neil van Heerden. The Botswana delegation was headed by President Masire's permanent secretary, Mr Festus Mogae.

Commonwealth Group Departs After 'Fruitful' Talks

MB251257 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 1113 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] Members of the Commonwealth Group of Eminent Persons left Botswana this morning after top-level discussions with authorities here on the politics of the region.

A spokesman of the office of the president said the talks were quite fruitful. The group met the president, Dr Quett Masire, and the vice president, Mr Peter Mmusi, among other prominent figures. The group's next destination is Harare, Zimbabwe, on the same mission.

After rounding up their exchange of views with the Frontline States, the Commonwealth team returns to South Africa for further dialogue with authorities there in attempts to find a peaceful settlement to that country's problems. The group was appointed for this purpose by the Commonwealth heads of government meeting in Nassau, the Bahamas, in October last year. They were seen off at the Sir Seretse Khama Airport by the acting minister of external affairs, Mr Ponatshego Kedikilwe, who is also minister for presidential affairs and public administration.

LESOTHO

Three Former Ministers Reportedly Released

MB251804 London BBC World Service in English 1615 GMT 25 Feb 86

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Three former cabinet ministers in Lesotho's ousted Prime Minister Chief Jonathan's government had apparently been released from detention. Information Minister Desmond Sixishe, Foreign Affairs Minister Vincent Makhela, and Cooperatives Minister Matholoane were picked up by Major General Lekhanya's military government at the beginning of this month, 2 weeks after the coup that toppled Chief Jonathan. Nothing was said about why they had been detained, but there was talk about financial irregularities and about the three ministers' connection with the controversial youth wing of Chief Jonathan's BNP [Basotho National Party]. They were released on Friday. Rick Wells asked John Makhela in Maseru if their release was as unexpected as their detention:

[Makhela] I think to a great extent there was a feeling that they would be released, but the question was when, because Lesotho has a law under which people can be detained for a period of almost up to 60 days without being charged or without being tried. So, their release was expected within the 60-day period, but then their release also was dramatic in that it was not announced.

[Wells] Why do you think that they have been released now?

[Makhela] Well, I think they have been released now because of the government's commitment and the government's wish to be seen as keeping to its commitments, first and foremost the commitment that it would not indulge in a witch-hunting crusade. But on the other hand, I think also the question of being seen as a legitimate government, keeping its words, especially in light of the recent visit on Sunday of the Commonwealth Eminent Persons Group which last visited Johannesburg and Cape Town and South Africa as a whole. Now, they were obviously wanting to see themselves in a light which would project their government as being fair and free.

[Wells] You said that these ministers have been seen, they were seen the following day. Are they now, as far as you know, totally free or are they going to be under some restrictions still?

[Makhela] According to a highly-placed source close to the ruling Military Council, they have been released unconditionally. They will not face any further charges. As far as he is concerned they are free and they will remain free.

[Wells] Three of them were ministers. Do you think they are likely to get back into a position of power in government?

[Makhela] Well, I think there is a possibility that the three ministers will in fact return to public life.

Council Spokesman on Recovery of Illegal Arms

MB241213 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] The office of the chairman of the Military Council of Lesotho has disclosed that up to now 1,011 AK-47 rifles and 26,167 bullets have been recovered in the illegal possession of various persons.

Commenting on this new development, a spokesman of the council, Colonel Sekhobe Letsie, said that the authorities viewed very gravely the illegal possesion of arms and that serious action will be taken against those who continue to ignore the call of the government to surrender all weapons to the nearest police stations or Lesotho Paramilitary Force [LPF] bases.

Col Letsie recalled that at the beginning of this month, 678 AK-47 rifles, 69 pistols, 3,500 AK-47 bullets, and 13,080 pistol bullets were recovered from some people, including some who were highly placed officials of the previous government. He added that at the time the nation was told that the maintainance of law and order was the responsibility of the LPF and the police, as well as the safeguarding of the security of the country.

Col Letsie warned that people who continue to turn a deaf ear to calls to give up arms would only have themselves to blame for the consequences of their actions. He added that this was a final warning to those who continue to harbor dangerous weapons to surrender them immediately to the authorities.

MOZAMBIQUE

RENAMO Claims Namacurra Seized on 22 Feb

PA261317 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1257 GMT 26 Feb 86

[Text] Lisbon, 26 Feb (EFE) — The insurgents of the Mozambique National Resistance (RENAMO) have announced that they seized the important town of Namacurra, a railroad center on the line that links Macuba with the port of Quelimane, Zambezia Province in central Mozambique.

Jorge Correia, self-named spokesman and delegate to Europe of RENAMO, said here today that the action took place on 22 February and that on the same day, the subversives repelled an attempt by the Zimbabwean troops — which are helping the Mozambique Government — to recover the town of Caia, located between Zambezia and Sofala Provinces near the mouth of the Zambezi River.

Correia added that a Mozambique Army major was killed in Namacurra and that eight SAM-7 surface-to-air missiles were seized in Caia which the RENAMO claims it has occupied for the past 3 months.

NAMIBIA

Motion on Probe of Antigovernment Groups Debated

MB251439 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1433 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] Windhoek, Feb 25, SAPA — Debate was due to resume in the SWA/Namibian National Assembly today on a controversial motion calling for an investigation into "anti-government" organisations in the territory.

Notice of the motion was given last Friday by a deputy minister in the SWA/Namibian transitional government and member of the Rehoboth Free Democratic Party, Dr Lukas de Vries.

The motion mentioned by name the "Wit Weerstandsbeweging" [White Resistance Movement], SWAPO and the SWAPO Youth League, the Council of Churches in Namibia (CCN) and the Namibia Educational Forum.

Introducing the motion yesterday, Dr de Vries said the CCN was a front organisation for SWAPO and a depository for inflammatory literature from South Africa aimed at introducing unrest from the Republic to SWA/Namibia.

Dr de Vries, a former head of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in SWA and office-bearer of the Christian Institute which preceded the CCN, said the CCN financed SWAPO-aligned parties and granted humanitarian aid to SWAPO members only. Such aid amounted to R62,941 in 1984 while aid to SWAPO prisoners amounted to R108, 130 in 1984.

He said the CCN had spent R170,000 on "the SWAPO school" at Gibeon in 1983 and R96,000 in 1984.

SWAPO's legal aid fund received R187,000 in 1983 and R73,000 in 1984.

The minister of mines and leader of the SWAPO-Democrats, Mr Andreas Shipanga, opposed the motion saying he did not want to see the territory becoming embroiled in a witch-hunt reminiscent of the McCarthy era in the United States. Politicians were not there to investigate their opponents.

"If any member or group breaks the law, the law is there to take its course," he said.

A Democratic Turnhalle Alliance member, Mr Hans-Erik Staby, said he did not believe the investigation would be in the interests of national reconcilliation in SWA/Namibia.

Criticism in any government system was not only welcome but needed, "even if it is sometimes unfair." He proposed an amendment urging all organisations, including those listed, to support the transitional government's effort to lead the country to peaceful, orderly and democratic independence.

A SWA National Union member, Mr Tjie Ngarengombe, said unless the people wanted a one-party state there were other ways in which the government could improve its image.

The debate adjourned.

SOUTH AFRICA

Netherlands' De Jonge To Be Prosecuted

MB261051 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1050 GMT 26 Feb 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Feb 26, SAPA — Dutch national Klaas de Jonge and his Belgian former wife, Helene Passtoors, are to be prosecuted in the Rand Supreme Court, the office of the attorney-general of the Witwatersrand Division announced in Johannesburg today.

She is to be charged with treason, alternatively terrorism, and he with one count of terrorism.

"The attorney-general has no comment whatsoever to make on possible specuation whether Mr de Jonge will be available to stand his trial or not."

Mr de Jonge has been holed-up in what was then the Netherlands Embassy in Pretoria since July last year, after becoming the focal point in an international row. He was arrested earlier last year and in July he escaped from the police into the embassy. He had tricked them into taking him to the embassy while he was pointing out certain places during investigations.

At the embassy he broke free and dashed inside, but police hauled him out. He was returned to the embassy after Holland protested, threatening to break ties with South Africa.

Mr De Jonge has been on the premises ever since — even though the embassy moved to new premises in Pretoria late last year. Dutch officials maintain embassy protection by staying with him in the old embassy offices.

Recently South Africa's foreign minister, Mr Pik Botha, had discussions in Holland with the Dutch Government, but no agreement to release Mr de Jonge into South Africa's hands was reached.

This morning's press release said the attorney-general had decided to "institute a prosecution jointly against Helene Therese Judith Marie Passtoors and Klaas de Jonge."

She will face two counts: treason, alternatively terrorism, in contravention of Section 54(1) of the Internal Security Act of 1982, and a second count of terrorism under the same section of the act.

He faces one count of terrorism under the same section of the act, according to the statement.

"Mrs Passtoors will appear in the magistrates court, Johannesburg on Friday, February 28, in this connection. The trial will commence on April 14 in the Supreme Court, Johannesburg. The date was arranged in consultation with the defence," the statement said.

"The attorney-general has no comment whatsoever to make on possible speculation whether Mr de Jonge will be available to stand his trial or not," it added.

Le Grange on Inquiries Into 1985 Alexandra Unrest

MB251510 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1504 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] House of Assembly, Feb 25, SAPA — Forty two court cases were pending as a result of inquiries into unrest in Alexandra last year, the minister of law and order, Mr Louis le Grange, said today.

Replying to a question from Mr David Dalling [PFP (Progressive Federal Party) Sandton], he said inquiries into 343 cases arising from the unrest had been completed. Five cases were still being investigated.

Replying to another question from Mr Dalling, the deputy minister of education and development aid, Mr Sam de Beer, said inquiries by the local action circuit inspector into boycotts at secondary schools in Alexandra last year had been completed.

It had been found that the reasons for the boycotts were intimidation, demands for the release of detainees and the withdrawal of the SAP and SADF from townships, and complaints against one of the principals.

Mr de Beer said successful steps had been taken to prevent the disruption of examinations, the principal concerned had been transferred at his own request and a special tuition programme for Standard 10 pupils had been set up to counter the boycotts.

In his reply, Mr le Grange said that, of the 343 completed SAP inquiries into the Alexandra unrest, complaints could not be traced in 297 cases, four allegations were found to be false, 36 people broguht to court were acquitted and six cases were still before court.

It was not known when the investigations in five other cases would be completed.

Mr le Grange also corrected his reply to a question by Mrs Helen Suzman [PFP Houghton] last week on unrest in Alexandra on February 15.

He said last week the unrest had begun after the death of a man at an Asian shop in the township. Today, Mr le Grange deleted reference to the word "Asian."

PFP Condemns Police Seizure of Clinic Records

MB251610 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1559 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] Cape Town, Feb 25, SAPA — The seizure by police of medical records at the Alexandra clinic near Johannesburg was an assault on the integrity and status of health services in South Africa, Mr Tiaan van der Merwe, the PFP's alternate spokesman on law and order, said today.

"These records are confidential and should remain confidential if health services are to be effective and available to all in South Africa," he said in a statement issued in Cape Town.

The seizure was "one of the more distasteful habits of investigation used by the SAP in recent months."

Mr van der Merwe said health care was one of the few aspects of society that had, to a large extent, retained its integrity and credibility.

"If it is now becoming yet another avenue of police intimidation and government oppression, the consequences will be serious. Health care cannot afford to be saddled with the appalling image the police have acquired over the last year.

"It is extremely important that some elements of our society should be seen to be above the sordid conflict apartheid has brought about."

Jan Foreign Trade Surplus Totals 730 Million Rand

MB251524 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] South Africa's trade surplus amounted to 730 million rand last month, an increase of 75 percent over January last year. Exports increased by 25 percent during the first month of this year and imports rose by 21 percent. Export commodities which did particularly well were base metals, machinery, and transport, prepared foods, and vegetable products.

Interviewed by our economics staff, a spokesman for the South African Foreign Trade Organization, Mrs Ann Moore, said the 21 percent increase in imports would seem to indicate a slight renewal of growth in the domestic market. She sounded a warning, however, that a trend could not be based on 1 month's figures.

Further Reportage on Gold, Coal Miner Strikes

Nightshift Joins; Talks Continue

MB252036 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2035 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Feb 25, SAPA — Negotiations between strikers and management at Vaal Reef's Gold Mine would continue tomorrow after the nightshift staff joined 12,000 miners who refused to work, a Vaal Reef's spokesman said.

The situation "remained very much the same" at the Klerksdorp mine tonight after the nightshift miners at Shafts One, Two and Five refused to work, the spokesman said. He could not give the exact figure but estimated the number to be less than the dayshift complement.

Negotiations would continue with the National Union of Mineworkers [NUM] and miners to bring about a return to work, he said.

NUM said today the rest of Vaal Reef's miners were "poised to join the strike" which it said was likely to affect 40,000 workers.

The strike was apparently called after eight workers were taken in to custody yesterday following the deaths of four team leaders last week.

Situation 'Tense But Peaceful'

MB260817 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0747 GMT 26 Feb 86

[Excerpts] Johannesburg, Feb 26, SAPA — Strikes involving more than 17,100 black miners broke out at a gold mine and two collieries yesterday and it is feared that the number of strikers could rise to 42,000 today.

Management yesterday held urgent talks with the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) in an effort to end the work stoppage, an Anglo American spokesman said. Talks will continue today.

The NUM said the entire Vaal Reefs workforce — a total of 40,000 — was poised to strike if no satisfactory solution was reached. Workers are demanding the release of their colleagues.

Early today police could not confirm the total number of people arrested but said those in custody would appear in the Stilfontein magistrates court tomorrow in connection with allegations of murder.

The situation at the mine was described as tense but peaceful.

Sketching the background to the strike an Anglo spokesman said:

"On Tuesday February 18, four team leaders were brutally murdered and four others were seriously injured after being attacked in their rooms at the Number 5 shaft hostel. Management is determined to ensure that the perpetrators of the murders and assaults are brought to justice as quickly as possible.

"The work stoppage is affecting the Numbers 1, 2 and 5 shafts as well as the gold plant and engineering workshops."

He said the company was not contemplating dismissing the strikers at this stage.

"No ultimatums have been issued. We want to get the workers back to work."

In a separate development, more than 1,500 NUM members went on strike at Anglo Americans Goedehoop colliery in Witbank yesterday. The NUM said the strike was caused by the dismissal of four shaft stewards. Management said it was trying to determine the reasons behind the strike to ensure an early return to work.

At Rand Mines Wolwerkrans colliery in Witbank about 600 workers went on strike. No reasons for the strike have yet been established.

Coal Miners Back at Work

MB261448 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1444 GMT 26 Feb 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Feb 26, SAPA — Workers at Shafts Four and Seven of the west division of Vaal Reefs gold mine in Klerksdorp have joined the strike, the National Union of Mineworkers [NUM] said today.

"In total five shafts of the Vaal Reef's complex are now on strike, including Shafts One, Two and Five. The total workforce on strike is about 19,000. A few workers have returned at Shafts One and Two, but production has not taken place," a NUM statement said.

"To date mass meetings with the workers have been held at Shafts One, Two and Five," the statement added. "The union shaft stewards and representatives, acting on the mandate of these meetings, presented the workers demand to management, namely, the release of the workers who were arrested, now believed to be 10."

NUM said a meeting was planned with management late this afternoon to try and resolve the dispute. "There is no intimidation on the part of union members at the mine. The situation is extremely tense and mine security is patroling the area."

At Goedehoop and Wolvekrans collieries striking workers had returned, NUM said. The return came after the managements agreed to investigate worker grievances, NUM said.

Railroad Artisans Vote for Illegal Strike Action

MB260525 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2100 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Feb 25, SAPA — A unanimous vote for strike action was called by 400 railway artisans during an emotional protest meeting tonight of the Southern Transvaal area of the Railway's Artisan Staff Association, over a "derisory" ten per cent pay increase.

A motion of no confidence was taken in the minister of transport, Mr Hendrik Schoeman, and a motion of confidence was accepted in both the SATS [South African Transport Services] federation and executive of the Artisan Staff Association.

Mr Frans Gerber, executive officer for the South Africa Transport Services Civil Department and vice-chairman of the southern Transvaal area committee, said the executive would inform the president and the secretariat of the motions carried, which would be followed by "an extra-ordinary meeting of the executive."

The strike is illegal under the South African Transport Services Act.

AZAPO President Says Meeting Again Banned

MB260933 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0911 GMT 26 Feb 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Feb 26, SAPA — A meeting of the border region of the Azanian People's Organisation [AZAPO] has been banned for the third time, AZAPO President Saths Cooper said today.

The meeting, planned for Saturday in Ginsburg, was banned today in terms of Section 46 of the Internal Security Act, by King Williams Town Magistrate Mr P.S.G. Nell. He banned the last two meetings organised by the border region of AZAPO.

The meeting was to discuss current issues, particularly in education, and was to be addressed by Mr Cooper and the Azanian Students Movement president, Dr Arthur Rantloana.

"This is the action of a terrified government," Mr Cooper said in a statement.

White Jailed for 7 Years for ANC Training

MB251629 Umtata Captial Radio in English 1300 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] A young draft dodger has become the first white South African jailed for undergoing ANC military training. Eric Pelser has been sentenced to an effective 7 years in prison in the Rand Supreme Court. Pelser admitted undergoing military training with Umkhonto we Sizwe [Spear of the Nation], the military wing of the ANC. He has been convicted on charges of treason and of possessing banned literature. Pelser told the court he left South Africa to avoid military training and was recruited by the ANC. He was arrested in his Johannesburg flat last July.

Police Kill 'Trained' ANC Member in Soweto 26 Feb

MB261453 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1453 GMT 26 Feb 86

[Text] Pretoria, Feb 26, SAPA — A trained ANC member was shot dead by police in Soweto this morning.

A police spokesman said in Pretoria this afternoon that police "acting on information" went to a house in Soweto early this morning where they found a black man lying on a couch. The man stood up holding a cushion in front of him. One of the policeman noticed the man holding a handgrenade of Russian origin behind the cushion.

The policeman opened fire and the man fell on the hand grenade which immediately exploded under him. The ANC man was killed. No police were injured.

Six men and three women were arrested and are being held for questioning about their possible involvement with the ANC member, the police spokesman said.

Police Confirm COSAS Members Detained for 8 Months

MB251548 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1542 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] Cape Town, Feb 25, SAPA — Police have confirmed that four former members of the Potchefstroom branch of the banned Congress of South African Students [COSAS] are being detained at Pollsmoor Prison under Section 28 of the Internal Security Act.

Mr Daniel Ralekgetho, Mr Wilson Pheto, Mr J. Makoena and Mr Thabo Majoe have been in detention for eight months, according to relatives who visited them at the weekend.

The four have seen their relatives twice — once in September and at the weekend.

"We constantly worry about them because we are so far away. They must be charged if they are suspected of having committed a crime. Using this law to keep them in detention for eight months is cruel," said Miss Johanna Maishoane, Mr Pheto's aunt.

Prison Spokesman on Reported AZAPO Food Boycott

MB250952 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0804 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] Pretoria, Feb 25, SAPA — The prison service said in Pretoria today that about 73 detainees held at the Modder Bee Prison near Benoni in terms of the emergency regulations had claimed not to have taken their meals yesterday "for the first time."

The spokesman was asked to comment on reports that 15 members of the Azanian Peoples Organisation [AZAPO], detained under the emergency regulations, had planned to start a food boycott yesterday "as a token of protest."

A "declaration" signed by the 15, smuggled out of Modder Bee and released by AZAPO, said they were committing themselves to an "indefinite food boycott" in protest against "continued white minority domination" and "national oppression and economic exploitation."

The prison spokesman said it was "obvious that this so-called hunger strike is an orchestrated attempt to gain maximum publicity about the detention of these people."

"The South African prison service concerns itself with the caring for and handling of the people entrusted to its care in a professional way, and is therefore not prepared to be dragged into such an obvious propaganda stunt," he said.

Regarding Johannesburg prison (Diepkloof), the spokesman said the detainees there who had claimed to be on a hunger strike started to take their meals last Friday.

Kagiso Student Dies; Police Deny Confrontation

MB251406 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1404 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] Pretoria, Feb 25, SAPA — A 22-year-old student, Mr Steven Matsogo of Kagiso, died in Leratong Hospital on the West Rand last night after an apparent assault, and it was not known who was responsible, a spokesman for the police directorate of public relations said.

A spokesman for the directorate was asked to comment on a news report that said Mr Matsogo, according to residents of Kagiso, was killed and 30 others injured when police made a baton charge against residents who had met to discuss township issues.

The spokesman said there were no incidents of police confrontation. Mr Matsogo was taken by ambulance to Leratong "where he subsequently died."

2,000 Students Protest Bonteheuwel Detentions

MB251621 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1616 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] Cape Town, Feb 25, SAPA — About 2000 pupils gathered at Bonteheuwel Senior Secondary School for a rally today in response to yesterday's detention of 40 pupils and a man from the area.

Hundreds of pupils from Arcadia and Modderdam Senior Secondary Schools, accompanied by teachers, joined Bonteheuwel Secondary's 900 pupils for the rally and were addressed by pupils. They said pupils at Modderdam Senior Secondary were unhappy that they were not all being promoted, as were pupils at the other two schools.

This was one of the issues discussed at the workshop the detained pupils were attending at the town centre office of the Bonteheuwel advice office forum when police arrived yesterday afternoon.

The pupils — 32 boys and eight girls, the youngest of whom is 14 — are members of the Bonteheuwel Inter-School Committee.

Police seized a cabinet holding files on unrest victims, pamphlets, posters and other material before ferrying the pupils to the Bishop Lavis Police Station, said a Bonteheuwel United Democratic Front area committee spokesman.

1 Killed, 180 Detained in Clashes in Lebowa

MB251548 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1547 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] Lebowa, Feb 25, SAPA — A man was killed and 180 people detained in Lebowa following clashes between police and Motatema residents last week, Lebowa police told a Johannesburg newspaper today.

The newspaper said residents claimed Mr Solomon Matshomane, 21, had died and several youths were seriously injured and taken into police custody. The cause of the clash was not clear but police said residents had stoned buildings and private vehicles, leading to police action.

This afternoon a police spokesman could not confirm the number of those detained but police were in Motatema questioning a number of poeple in connection with the incident. The names of those detained and charges could only be released tomorrow after investigations, he said.

"Police are questioning a number of people," Assistant Commissioner Col P. Moloto told SAPA. "As far as I know, our police are busy investigating the case in the area. They are interrogating certain people. I don't know how many people."

The newspaper said the violence started with a clash between residents and one policeman, but more violence occurred as he retreated to the police station where other policemen confroated the residents.

A spokesman of the Motatema Youth Congress said at least five youths were in hospital but the extent of their injuries was not known.

Residents claimed that immediately after the clash on Thursday, angry youths had gone on rampage, stoning and damaging policemen's houses and burning a policeman's car. Women tried to stage a protest march to the police station on Sunday but they were prevented by police patrols in the area and the procession was redirected to the dead man's home.

The newspaper said a large number of youths were expected to appear in court today in connection with the incident but police gave no exact details.

300 KTC Women Ask Removal of Squatter Leader

MB260456 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2207 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] Cape Town, Feb 25, SAPA — Over 300 angry women from the KTC squatter camp today marched on the Western Cape Development Board offices in Nyanga and damanded that one-time squatter leader, Mr Oliver Memani, and his family be removed from the western Cape. Two army buffels kept watch on the crowd of women, who sent a delegation of six in to meet board officials.

The march followed the early morning shooting and wounding of at least one rival of Mr Memani.

Mr Memani last month said he was "withdrawing from squatter politics." Mr Gladstone Ntamo, an executive member of the Masincedane group, said "since Oliver Memani left KTC there has been peace, but now it seems he wants to come back and the fighting starts again."

Mr Sampie Steenkamp, liaison officer for the Western Cape Development Board, confirmed board officials met a delegation of women from KTC.

"They are insisting Mr Memani leaves the western Cape. We said we would act as a channel for their demands, and passed the message on to the police. It is now in their hands."

A police spokesman said Mr Kulu Ntuyendwa of the "Memani camp" at KTC had been shot in the forehead by an unidentified man in Ntlangano crescent, Nyanga at 6.30am. He said police were investigating a charge of attempted murder.

Police Issue Latest Unrest Situation Reports

Late 25 Feb

MB251709 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1706 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] Pretoria, Feb 25, SAPA -- The following is the 7pm unrest report from the police directorate of public relations in Pretoria:

"In Petrusville black township in the northern Cape, unknown blacks necklaced a black man with a tyre and set fire to him. He was admitted to the local hospital in a severe condition. There were no arrests.

"In Wesselton black township in Ermelo, two black men stoned a vehicle of the municipality police. The municipality police had to shoot them with birdshot and they were wounded.

"In Leydenberg black township in the eastern Transvaal, blacks stoned a house of a South African police member. The police had to act with two 9mm duty pistols. One black man was wounded and arrested.

"A black man under 18 years was arrested today in Umlazi black township, Durban, after a SAP vehicle had been stoned by a mob of blacks.

"Two black men under 18 and a third over 18 were also arrested in Tembisa black township in the East Rand, after they had partook in stoning a private vehicle."

Ends report.

Early 26 Feb

MB260649 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0622 GMT 26 Feb 86

[Text] Pretoria, Feb 26, SAPA — Following is SAP situation report on unrest to 8am today.

"At Tembisa, on the east Rand, a private motor car was extensively damaged when it was set on fire. Three men were arrested in connection with this incident. In the same area, a black man was fatally injured when a petrol bomb was thrown into a bus and he jumped out of a window to escape the flames.

"At KwaMashu near Durban, a bus and a private vehicle were damaged by stonethrowers.

"At Claremont, also near Durban, a private vehicle was damaged by stonethrowers.

"At Dikathole near Aliwal north SAP vehicles were stoned on a number of occasions. These mobs were dispersed with tear smoke and shotgun fire. No injuries were reported.

"At Bonteheuwel, near Cape Town, a bus and a delivery vehicle were stoned and petrol-bombed.

"At Mbekweni near Paarl, a private home was extensively damaged when it was petrol-bombed.

"In Atteridgeville, a private home was petrol-bombed and extensively damaged."

End report.

Press Comments on Current Issues, Problems

[Editorial Report] **Student Radicalism on Increase**

Johannesburg *THE SUNDAY STAR* in English on 23 February carries a report by David Breier on page 14 which says political attitudes are hardening among university students, and there are now "fanatical supporters of movements ranging from the right-wing Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging [Afrikaner Resistance Movement] to the African National Congress and the black consciousness movement." David Welsh, professor of political studies at University of Cape Town, noted the increased radicalization on campuses and said many students had the perception "that the regime was vulnerable and there was light at the end of the tunnel for those struggling against it."

Alexandra Mayor 'Hard To Find'

Jon Qwelane reports that Alexandra Mayor Sam Buti, who a few years ago was "the toast of Alexandra" for opposing government efforts to convert the township into a hostel complex, has been difficult to find during this week's violence. "Residents say Mr Buti and his councillors fled the township to seek refuge in nearby Sandton. The claim does not appear to be unfounded, because neither Mr Buti nor any of his councillors was anywhere in the township during the violence to pacify the enraged crowds." Qwelane notes that the love and admiration Buti "inspired in his community turned to intense dislike and scorn when he opted to participate in the unpopular black local authorities system."

'Paucity of Talent' in PFP

David Breier comments on page 2 of the Review section that the return of Colin Eglin as leader of the Progressive Federal Party (PFP) reflects well on him, but badly on the party itself. "When Dr [Frederik van Zyl] Slabbert resigned his leadership, the PFP found it had leaned too heavily on him. There was no one else. It had to fall back on Mr Eglin. Such a paucity of new talent does not bode well for the party."

President Willing To Meet SACC

Pretoria *DIE TRANSVALER* in Afrikaans on 21 February says in a front page article that President P.W. Botha is prepared to hold talks with Bishop Desmond Tutu and other members of the South African Council of Churches (SACC). This was revealed

to *DIE TRANSVALER* by the deputy minister of law, order, and defense following talks he held with a delegation of the SACC in Cape Town.

Reform Not Possible Without Capital

Johannesburg *DIE VADERLAND* in Afrikaans on 21 February says in an editorial on page 10 that "Dr Leutwiler's personal influence and handling of the South Africa debt crisis has contributed to a successful agreement." Dr Leutwiler was correct in saying that reform is not possible without an appreciable inflow of foreign capital into South Africa. The Swiss mediator's view that that peaceful reform cannot be achieved by sabotaging South Africa's economy is an unmistakable rejection of Dr Alan Boesak and Bishop Tutu's call for disinvestment.

No Blacks Arrested for Swimming

Johannesburg *BEELD* in Afrikaans on 24 February says in an article on page 2 that no blacks were arrested yesterday on Port Elizabeth's "white beaches" for swimming illegally. An automobile company in Port Elizabeth has said that it will pay the fines of its black workers if they are convicted.

Job Strategy Supported

An editorial on page 8 says, "The announcement that the President's Council is going to investigate strategies to create jobs is to be welcomed." It was emphasized long ago that South Africa needs a national strategy for job creation, and the country is feeling the effects of unemployment, which is one of the main causes of unrest in black residential areas.

School Desegregation Demanded

"A Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) conference last week passed a controversial motion calling for the 'immediate desegregation' of all schools," Susan Pleming reports on page 1 of Johannesburg *THE STAR* in English on 24 February. "The motion stated that many of the problems in education, specifically in language teaching, resulted from segregated education and enforced separation of language communities." The conference was attended by "teachers, departmental officials, inspectors and university lecturers."

AWB Vows To Defend Riches

Eugene Terre'Blanche, leader of the AWB, told an audience in Nelspruit that "God bestowed the world's richest minerals upon the Afrikaner nation and nobody was going to take these from them," *THE STAR* reports on page 6." 'The Transvaal, the Free State and Northern Natal — the original Boere Republic — belong to the Afrikaner and we intend taking them back,' Mr Terre'Blanche said."

Munsieville Angry at Petition To Move

"Residents of Munsieville, near Krugersdorp, have reacted angrily to a petition signed by more than 10,000 Dan Pienaarville residents demanding that they be moved to Kagiso within a year," Rich Mkhondo reports on page 7. "Several Munsieville residents said they had lived in the area long before the whites settled in Dan Pienaarville and that if they objected to being neighbours, the whites should leave." One Munsieville resident said: " 'It is not our fault that we live in squalid condition, it is the fault of the Government.' " Another said that the government never bothered to upgrade the township, but now that a white residential is near, "the question of squalid conditions arises." Another township residents said the petition indicated " 'whites are not prepared to live side-by-side with blacks in peace and harmony. It is racism at its worst.' " Hannes de Wet notes in an adjoining article that residents of Dan Pienaarville are fearful and apprehensive since a petrol bomb attack on one of the suburb's houses last year, and it is these fears that sparked the petition drive.

GM's 'Radical Departure' Discussed

In an editorial on page 4 *BUSINESS DAY* says that General Motors, by offering to provide legal backing for black employees who choose to swim at a "whites only" Port Elizabeth beach, is "likely to set a precedent." Most multinational companies have not done much to challenge the inequities of the political system. "But going that extra step, General Motors has taken a radical departure for a multinational." "Its increased activity is not out of line with the pronouncement by President Botha — to wit, that apartheid is an 'outdated concept'. So perhaps we should accept its new stand as a positive contribution to the process of change."

ASASM Leery of White Stance on Schools

Johannesburg *SOWETAN* in English on 24 February reports on page 3 that the Azanian Studnets Movement (ASASM) has said "black students are unimpressed by statements made recently by some whites that they would not mind school integration." A statement issued by AZASM said a move by Indian and colored members of Parliament to open their schools to all races was an "empty gesture." "Only when the white settler minority has relinquished their control of our education would our grievances be satisfied'," the statement said.

Disinformation on Unrest Criticized

In the "On the Line" column on page 7, Aggrey Klaaste describes his disbelief of the lack of news coverage on SABC radio after the initial violence in Alexandra township. "When somebody eventually decided that it was impossible to bury this story, there followed a classical treatment of disinformation the likes of which would have made George Orwell very proud." The people compiling the news, he notes, "are white South Africans desperately trying to hide the truth from themselves." This "unabashed bias and disinformation is criminal." Turning to the subject of jailed ANC leader Nelson Mandela, Klaaste says the "government is turning Mr Nelson Mandela into a living saint." He should be released. The children are on the rampage, and "it will need something much more aggressive and convincing than the crossing of any number of Rubicons to get matters back to normality."

Tutu Blasted by CITIZEN

Johannesburg *THE CITIZEN* in English on 24 February criticizes Bishop Tutu for his part in the memorandum to Coca-Cola and says: "We do not know what the Government intends to do about Bishop Tutu, if it intends to do anything at all, but we do know that many are sick and tired of his political involvements and his negative attitudes." It warns Tutu to "confine yourself to your pastoral duties. Let people who truly believe in peace and peaceful reform get on with it without your bloody interference."

ZAMBIA

2,000 Refugees From Mozambique Enter Country

MB251210 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] More than 2,000 Mozambicans have taken refuge in Zambia over the last 2 weeks. They were fleeing from the criminal actions of the armed bandits.

The number of people who have fled the country since 1985 for Zambia had thus increased to 9,000. According to Betty Chilunga, member of Zambia's United National Independence Party Central Committee, many of these refugees do not yet have accommodation.

Chilunga said, however, that the cases of whooping cough and diarrhea which were reported are now being treated and under control. She said that Zambia was already distributing food, but that the continuing inflow of refugees is hampering the operation.

ZIMBABWE

Mugabe Meets With Commonwealth Delegation

MB260614 Harare Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 26 Feb 86

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, has held talks with the Commonwealth secretary general, Sir Shridath Ramphal, and the Commonwealth team seeking a solution to South Africa's race problems.

The Commonwealth delegation arrived in Harare yesterday. Five members of the group of eminent persons established at the Bahamas Commonwealth conference last year are in the capital. They are former Australian prime minister, Malcolm Fraser, Archbishop Edward Scott of Canada, Dame Nita Barrow of Barbados, Lord Barber of Britain, [words indistinct] Tanzanian foreign minister, Comrade John Malecela.

ZAPU MP's, Army Officers in Court on Coup Charges

MB251908 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] Ten army officers and members of the opposition ZAPU party in Zimbabwe have been charged with plotting a coup against the government of Prime Minister Robert Mugabe. They appeared briefly in a Harare magistrate court yesterday. Two of the accused were members of parliament for constituencies in Matabeleland Province and the army officers are three brigadiers, two colonels, a captain, and a corporal. Most of the accused have been in jail for 5 or 6 months. The case has been remanded until next March and lawyers defending the accused have told the prosecution that they will oppose further postponement.

'Bandit' Responsible for Burning School Killed

MB252038 Harare Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Excerpt] Bulawayo — Security forces yesterday killed one of the two bandits responsible for burning down two secondary schools in the Plumtree district earlier this month. Today the vice president of the Senate, Comrade (Joshua Masilela), and a group of newsmen were shown the bodies of the bandits at Plumtree police station.